Friday
30th November, 1956

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LOK SABHA

Friday, 30th November, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Synthetic Oil Plant

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*632. {Shri Gidwani: / Shri Chattopadhaya:} Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reconsidering the question of installing a Synthetic Oil Plant and?

(b) if so, at what stage is the proposal?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). The matter is being examined by the Planning Commission.

Shri Gidwani: May I know whether any expert Committee has been appointed and, if so, whether the committee has submitted any report?

Shri Satish Chandra: Yes, Sir. A committee was appointed and it has submitted its report. It is on the basis of that report that the matter is being further discussed in the Planning Commission.

Shri Gidwani: Can the Government give us the recommendations of that committee?

Shri Satish Chandra: That is a very technical report dealing with various alternative schemes; as to what items can be taken up for production and how much will they cost etc. I do not think it will be very useful for Members of Parliament?

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether the Planning Commission is taking time over it because of the fact that the oil produced synthetically is much costlier than oil otherwise obtained?

Shri Satish Chandra: These aspects are being gone into. It has been found from preliminary investigations so far made that the production of synthetic petroleum in this country can be an economic proposition. It all depends upon the price of the raw material, the coal, power and other things. In India, where the cost of production of coal is very low, it may be an economic proposition.

Shri Bansal: May I.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already made the request and I repeat that request again that hon. Members may begin to speak only when they have been called upon. Shri Vittal Rao.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: This question of setting up a synthetic oil plant was originally mooted out and was to be included in the Second Five Year Plan but it was subsequently dropped. May I know whether the Planning Commission is now examining the scheme with a view to its inclusion in the Third Plan or in the Second Plan itself?

Shri Satish Chandra: It is true that the original scheme was discussed but could not be included in the Plan on account of its high cost. The estimates were in the region of Rs. 50 crores. The alternative scheme and a smaller one now under discussion is, in fact, a soft-coke *cum* small quantities synthetic petroleum project at a cost of Rs. 20 crores. It is being discussed in the Planning Commission. But the allotment of finances will be subject to budget resources and the availability of foreign exchange.

Shri Bansal: May I know if it is a fact that the possibility of finding natural oil has been responsible for relegating this scheme to a lower order of priority and, if it is so, have Government considered the various by-products that will come out if synthetic petroleum is produced in this country, which are so essential for the development of several types of chemical industries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Suggestions and many other things are contained in

the same question. The first part may be answered.

Shri Satish Chandra: It is true that this scheme was given a low priority because we have found out crude oil in Assam and there is a possibility of finding it out elsewhere also. But, as has been stated before in this House by the Prime Minister and also by the Production Minister several times, the setting up of the synthetic oil project may lead to the development various other chemical industries. It is from that point of view that it is considered essential to have some such scheme for further development of chemical industries.

Central Silk Board

*633. **Shri Keshavaiengar:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Silk Board has taken up the task of publishing its books and other useful material connected with sericulture in all the regional languages; and

(b) if so the progress made so far in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). A publicity branch is being organised in the Board's office to undertake publication of brochures, pamphlets, booklets etc. in English, Hindi and other regional languges.

Shri Keshavaiengar: May we know whether Government has also programmed to publish these books in a form suited to serve even as text-books for children in the schools wherein sericulture is introduced as a subject?

Shri Satish Chandra: The suggestion will be passed on to the Central Silk Board.

Excise Duty on Cloth

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*634. **Shri Bansal:**
Dr. Rama Rao:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri M.S. Gurupadaswamy:
Shri M. Islamuddin:
Shri C. R. Chowdary:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri B. K. Das:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of additional excise duty levied during the last Session of Parliament on cotton textiles that has been asbsorbed by the mills and passed on to the consumers;

(b) whether the prices of cotton cloth in the retail market are lower or higher than they were on the eve of the impostition of the additional excise duty; and

(c) if so, by what percentage?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). It would be difficult to say with any degree of certainty what portion of the additional excise duty has been absorbed by the mills and how much has been passed on to the consumer. On the whole, however, there has been a fall of about 2 per cent in the prices of cloth since the imposition of additional excise duty.

Shri Bansal: For which period and for which varieties of cloth is this fall of 2 per cent?

Shri Karmarkar: It is about the average worked out. For different varieties there has been different fluctuation. If my hon. friend wants it and if you permit, I will give the details.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not in this House.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: The excise duty was levied mostly on fine and superfine cloth. May I know whether those prices also have gone down or gone up?

Shri Karmarkar: There has been an enchancement of duty uniformly on all the varieties of cloth. In some cases the prices have gone up; in some cases the prices have gone down.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Heda.... Shri Sharma.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Some publicity.

Shri Heda: *rose.*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When I called the hon. Member, Shri Heda, he did ot stand up. Now, he stands up again.

Shri Heda: Sir, I did not hear.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Some publicity material was issued by the Ministry in connection with the prices of various types of cloth. May I know how far that experiment has been successful and whether that experiment is still in process?

Shri Karmarkar: I think my esteemed colleague the Finance Minister discouraged the use of cloth at very high prices and we feel that is has had a salutary effect on the public and the response is quite encouraging.

Shri Heda: The hon. Minister stated that there was a fall of 2 per cent. in the prices. May I know whether he has taken into consideration the prices existing before the levy was undertaken or the

possible increase in prices as the trend in those days was towards increase ?

Shri Karmarkar : We did not take the possibilities into consideration ; we took actualities into consideration. The 2 per cent. is the actuality.

Shri G. D. Somani : May I enquire whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the mills are at present absorbing the full 100 per cent. additional excise duty in the present sales to the dealers ?

Shri Karmarkar : May be ; but my answer proper is contained in the original answer.

Chadd Bet

*635. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Pakistani Nationals crossed Pakistan border near Chadd Bet, Cutch, and entered India on 23rd September, 1956;

(b) whether any of them have been arrested; and

(c) what was their intention in entering India ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) to (c). A Pakistani national was arrested by the Indian authorities on the 23rd September, 1956 for entering Indian territory near Chhad Bet in Kutch without any travel documents. He was tried under the Pastport Rules and sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment on the 27th September, 1956.

Shri Gidwani: Was it only one person or was he accompanied by some others ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: According to our information only one person was apprehended.

Shri Gidwani: Has the Government enquired as to what was his object in coming here ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : Naturally we made enquiries. He seemed to have left his counry in order to evade the rigours of law in that country.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The Pakistan Government made some claims to this Chhad Bet area. May I know if any correspondence has taken place between the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : That is not connecied with the present question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : Is it true that some person from Pakistan came tothis territory of ours and took away about 14 buffaloes from there and no action has been taken by our Government ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have no information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This was only about the coming over of a national of Pakistan.

Shri Gidwani: The hon. Minister said that that person came here with a view to escape the rigours of law there. I did not follow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There must be something pending against him also

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Yes, that is the point.

Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Act

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*636. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1245 on the 20th August, 1956 and state:

(a) whether Government of India have decided to extend the life of Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Act of 1949 which expires by the end of November 1956; and

(b) the total number of abducted women still to be recovered from Pakistan ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, for one year upto 30th November 1957.

(b) It is not possible to give any precise figures indicating the number of abducted persons yet to be recovered in India and Pakistan. This work has been entrusted to the two High Powered Officers whose report is still awaited.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Government is going to make some efforts to arrive at an approximate assessment of the abducted persons either in Pakistan or in India, and, if so, if it is going to make use of some machinery for it ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why did he not make these suggestions in the debate on this subject just two days back when all the suggestions have been put and answers given ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I can give him the information, Sir. Two high-powered officers, one from India and another from Pakistan, are engaged in this task.

Displaced Persons in Purana Quila, Delhi

*638. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 780 on the 6th August, 1956 and State:

(a) the decision arrived at with regard to the time by which the residents of Purana Quila, Delhi, will be removed from the locality;

(b) whether any suitable site has been selected for their rehabilitation; and

(c) if so, the total amount expected to be spent in this regard?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) No decision has been taken yet.

(b) Not yet, but a site is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know which of the sites are under consideration, and how far they are from Purana Quila?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: The site that has been suggested to us by the affected persons is very near Purana Quila; it is situated in Jungpura.

Indian Trade Unions (Amendment) Act, 1947

*639. **Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether the Indian Trade Unions (Amendment) Act, 1947 has been brough into force?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): No.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether the Government is aware that the practice of refusing recognition to genuine representative trade unions as well as the unfair labour practices of fostering puppet unions and victimising members of genuine trade unions is very widespread, and under those circumstances whether they do not think it desirable to bring this Act into operation at an early date?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): As far as the question of unfair labour practices and victimisation is concerned, it is open to victimised persons to come to the Government and the question can be referred to an Industrial Tribunal for decision. Even under the law as it was there, if there is a question of unfair practices, it would have to go to the court. Since the passing of that law, the Government has come to the conclusion that any compulsory recognition of a union does not serve the purpose of sound trade union movement. It would be in the interests both of the workers as well as of the employers to have the voluntary recognition, and that practice is proving very healthy. Non-implementation of that law has not come in the way of sound trade union movement, which, from the figures, the House will know, has progressed considerably. In 1946-47, there were 980 unions, where as today there are 3,071 unions. It has not come in their way. So, I think that the Government's decision in the matter is in the interests of everybody concerned.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I point out that in the first place, the difference between an Industrial Tribunal and a Labour Court is obvious because it is only the Government who can refer or not refer to the Industrial Tribunal, whereas in the case of a Labour Court, the trade union has an access as of right. Is it a fact that in view of these circumstances, the Act has not been brought into operation and the Parliament's decision has been flouted because the Government now feels that it is no longer useful to bring the Act into operation?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In the question that is being put, there is a long satatement. What comes up after the long statement will be difficult to know. A question should be simple and precise so that an answer also may be given to it.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The simple question is this. Is it not being brought into force because the Act has served its purpose and did not serve to rally the workers behind the ruling party and also because.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: One question might be answered.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: It is part of the same question——and also because if the Act is brought into force, the employees might be alienated and the election fund might be affected.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: I have given a reply and I have got nothing more to add to it.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if in the chapter on labour policy in the Second Five Year Plan it is laid down that legislation should be undertaken for determining the principles for the grant of recongnition, and if so, when that legislation will be brought forward?

Shri Khandubhai Desai: As far as recognition before the law is concerned, every union is recognised before the Industrial Tribunal, and the conciliation machinery.

Shri Velayudhan: Is it the employers' attitude or the Labour Ministry that is responsible for not bringing this Act into force?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How the hon. Member came to that inference I do not know.

Shri Abid Ali: It is entirely wrong.

Shri Velayudhan: The answer should come from the Minister.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: It has been already answered. 'No' is the answer.

Shri Punnoose: Has the hon. Minister got figures to show how many unions wanted recognition during last year and how many were refused?

Shri Khandubhai Desai: I require notice.

प्रधान मंत्री का भाषण

*६४२. **श्री विभूति मिश्र** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ऐसी कोई योजना बना रही है जिससे कि प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा देश और विदेश में दिये गये भाषणों की प्रति-लिपियां ग्रामीण जनता को कम कीमतों पर उपलब्ध हो सकें ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वह योजना क्या है ; और

(ग) उसे कब लागू किया जायेगा ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केसकर) : (क) से (ग). इस प्रकार की एक योजना पहले ही आरम्भ की गई है जिसके अनुसार कुछ समय के लिये हर महीने १६ से २४ पन्ने तक का एक पैम्फलेट एक आने के सस्ते मूल्य पर प्रकाशित किया जा रहा है। इसमें प्रधान मंत्री का हिन्दी में एक मुख्य भाषण तथा दूसरे भाषणों के कुछ भाग शामिल किये जाते हैं। अब तक ऐसी दो पुस्तिकायें निकल चुकी हैं।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि यह भाषण गांवों के स्कूलों में, गांवों के अस्पतालों में या और लोक सहायक संस्थाओं में भेजने के लिये क्या सरकार कोई प्रबन्ध कर रही है ?

डा० केसकर : जी हां, इसका प्रबन्ध किया गया है और इसी उद्देश्य से यह जो पैम्फलेट छापे जा रहे हैं यह मोटे अक्षरों में हैं और उनका दाम नाम मात्र के लिये रक्खा गया है।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि किस-किस प्रान्त में कितनी-कितनी प्रतियां अब तक भेजी जा चुकी हैं ?

डा० केसकर : यह तो अभी हाल में ही प्रकाशित हुये हैं और अभी यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि किस-किस जगह कितनी-कितनी भेजी जायेंगी, इसमें कुछ समय लगेगा।

पंडित ह्रा० ना० तिवारी : क्या केवल प्रधान मंत्री के ही भाषण छपवाने का इंतजाम हुआ है या और मंत्रियों के भी भाषणों के छपवाने का इन्तजाम हुआ है ?

डा० केसकर : ऐसे लोगों के भी भाषण जो कि हमारे देश के बड़े नेता हैं बाद में छापने का प्रबन्ध किया जायेगा। इस वक्त तो प्रधान मंत्री जी के भाषण का इंतजाम किया गया है।

श्री हेडा : क्या कोई ऐसा समय अथवा अवधि निश्चित की गई है कि भाषण होने के बाद उतने समय के भीतर वह प्रकाशित हो जाय ?

डा० केसकर : नहीं, हर एक भाषण के लिए नहीं किया जाता, सिर्फ ऐसे ही भाषण प्रकाशित किये जांय जो सचमुच लोक कल्याण के लिए और साधारण समाज की प्रगति के लिए आवश्यक हों, सब भाषणों के लिए वैसा इंतजाम नहीं किया गया है।

Gua Manganese Mines

*643. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received that the creches of the Indian Iron and Steel Company's Manganese Mines at Gua, District Singbhum are not constructed in conformity with the Mines Creches Rules; and

(b) if so, what action have Government taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) A complaint was received about the Iron Ore Mines and not the Manganese Mines.

(b) The Chief Inspector of Mines has deputed an Officer to enquire into the matter.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that two months ago, a questionnaire has been replied to by the Gua Manganese Mines' Workers' Union that the creches had not been constructed in conformity with the rules, what steps has the Government taken to find out the fact and see that the mine owners conform to these rules?

Shri Abid Ali: This complaint was received early in October and, as I have said, the Chief Inspector of Mines had deputed an officer to enquire into the matter. A letter was also sent to the company to explain the position. The report is awaited.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What is the method whereby Government ensures that the laws passed by this Parliament are actually implemented? May I also know whether during the last few years, any inspection was undertaken and any report was made by these officers to the Central Government in this regard?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The agency or the methods that are adopted to see that any legislation passed here is carried out in letter and spirit—that is a wide question. If the Minister is prepared to reply, he may.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: It is a very specific question relating to creches.

Shri Abid Ali: The agency provided in the Act is the inspectorate. Wherever it is considered necessary, the managements are prosecuted, produced before the court and punished.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty : My question is this. Has this agency inspected this area with regard to this particular rule—with regard to creches? Has any report come to the Government during the last so many years?

Shri Abid Ali : We do receive reports periodically, not only about these mines but about other mines also.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty : Are we to take it that the inspectorate has never brought it to the notice of the Government, not only with regard to creches but with regard to various other provisions of the Mines Act, that they did not conform to rules? Has no such report ever been sent to the Central Government?

Shri Abid Ali: If the hon. Member gives notice, I shall search the files and tell her.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether the Government proposes to constitute a labour welfare fund? While imposing export duty on manganese ore, will this iron ore also be brought under that category or will it be separate?

Shri Abid Ali : There was a separate question a few days back and I have given a reply.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I want to know about the iron ores. Will that legislation cover iron ore?

Shri Abid Ali: How can this be interconnected? I have given a reply a few days back.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether these particular creches fall short of the specifications approved by the Government in any respect and if so, in what respect?

Shri Abid Ali: I have already said that we had not received the report from the inspectorate so far.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty : Is it a fact that when the inspectors go to inspect these mines, just on the eve of their inspection, some temporary measures are taken and hence the inspection report does not really reflect the true state of affairs? This mine is in the interior. Does the Government propose to tighten up the method of inspection and ask the various workers' organisations to put up their demands before the inspector when he visits these mines?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): I repudiate this insinuation in the first part of the question. The inspector will go to the mines and if the facts are as complained, naturally, steps will be taken under the law.

Travel between Tibet and Nepal

***644. Shri B. D. Pande:** Will **the Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the agreement signed between China and Nepal recently, the use of passports and visas for travel between Tibet and Nepal has been introduced for the first time; and

(b) if so, whether our border area is also affected by this agreement?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b) . An agreement to maintain friendly relations between the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Nepal and on Trade and intercourse between Tibet region of China and Nepal has been signed by the two countries. According to this Agreement, nationals of the two countries, other than border traders

inhabitants of the border districts and pilgrims, will have to possess valid passports issued by their respective Governments and visas by the other Government as provided in the Agreement of 1954 between India and the People's Republic of China. Our border area is not affected by the Agreement.

Shri B. D. Pande: I want to know definitely whether the Kumaon division people who travel to Tibet for trade purposes will have to obtain passports and visas?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The treaty which was signed between India and China was laid on the Table of the House. If the hon. Member looks into it, he will find the requirements of Indians going into Tibet.

श्री भक्त दर्शन: क्या यह सत्य है कि नैपाल और तिब्बत के बीच में जो समझौता हुआ है उससे पहले भारत और तिब्बत के बीच में जो समझौता हुआ था उसके कारण नैपाल के व्यापारियों को भारत के व्यापारियों की निस्बत अधिक सुविधायें दी गई हैं, और क्या भारत सरकार प्रयत्न करेगी कि उसी प्रकार की सुविधायें भारतीयों को भी तिब्बत में मिलें ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: This is a specific treaty signed between Nepal and China. It deals with the relations between Nepal and China. We have nothing to do with it.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मेरा मतलब माननीय मंत्री महोदय शायद समझ नहीं पाये, मेरा मतलब यह है .....

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The treaty between Nepal and China is patterned on the treaty between India and China.

Rani of Jhansi Centenary Celebrations

*645. {**Shri Bhakt Darshan:**
Shri Sanganna:

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 916 on the 24th August, 1956 and state:

(a) whether any final decision regarding issue of postage stamps bearing the picture of Rani of Jhansi on the occasion of her Centenary has been taken; and

(b) if so, its nature?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) (a) Yes.

(b) The stamps will be issued at the appropriate time in honour of the heroes of the 1857 Movement.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या गवर्नमेंट विचार कर रही है कि सन् १९५७ में झांसी की रानी के समान अन्य वीरों की भी स्मृति के रूप में कुछ इस प्रकार के टिकट निकाले जायें ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जी हां, ऐसा ही विचार किया जा रहा है और इस कार्य के लिये हम एक समिति नियुक्त करने जा रहे हैं ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : इस बारे में कौन-कौन से वीरों के सम्बन्ध में समिति ने अब तक निर्णय कर लिया है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : यह तो नहीं कहा जा सकता कि किन-किन के बारे में निर्णय कर लिया गया है या किया जा रहा है । समिति का निर्माण होने के बाद प्रमुख वीरों के नाम आयेंगे और आशा की जाती है कि जो वीर इस योग्य होंगे उन्हें जरूर इसमें लिया जायेगा ।

श्री विभूती मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस में कुंअर सिंह का भी नाम आया है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : वह भी हैं, तथा तांतिया टोपी भी हैं, नाना साहब हैं, इनके साथ और नाम भी हैं ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Veeraswamy.

श्री ब० द० पांडे : उसमें मंगल पांडे का नाम भी है ?

संचार मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : मंगल पांडे का नाम भी विचाराधीन है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would also request the hon. Ministers, when a Member has not been called and he puts an unauthorised question, that it should not be answered. I expect co-operation from this side also.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know whether there is also a proposal under consi-

deration of the Ministry of Communications to issue stamps bearing the figures who were fighting the Britishers for the freedom of India—for instance, Katta Bomman of the south?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: All the heroes of 1857 will be there.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It cannot be said whether a particular hero would be there or not.

दक्षिणी कोरिया का आरोप

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*६४६. { श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :
श्री शिवनंजप्पा :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि २४ अक्टूबर, १९५६ को संयुक्त राष्ट्र में दक्षिणी कोरिया के प्रतिनिधि ने भारत के विरुद्ध विश्वास भंग करने का आरोप लगाया था कि भारत ने दक्षिणी कोरिया के एक युद्ध बन्दी को गैर कानूनी तौर पर उत्तरी कोरिया को सौंप दिया ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): This is not quite correct. The South Korean Representative at the United Nations issued a statement regarding "flagrant violation of the Panmunjon Agreements by India." This statement was not issued as a United Nations document or Press release, and was therefore, without any United Nations status. The South Korean Observer at the United Nations also wrote a letter to our Permanent Representative on the 24th October, 1956 which, in substance, repeated the same charges. Needless to say, the charges are absolutely baseless.

2. In accordance with the Agreements concluded at Panmunjon regarding the repatriation of Prisoners of War from Korea, the Government of India which had brought 88 ex-Prisoners of War to India in February 1954, has repatriated those of the Prisoners who wished to proceed to their homelands. Only. 2 South Korean Prisoners of War were brought to India, and none of them has been repatriated to North Korea. However, out of the 74 North Koreans who were brough to India, 6 have been repatriated to their fatherland, as a result of their expressed wishes. No ex-Prisoner has been repatriated to any country which was not his fatherland, though some have been sent to neutral countries of their choice in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is it not true tha the United Nations has officially recorded its appreciation of the part played by Indian troops in Korea?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I believe it is so, Sir.

Lignite Project, Neiveli

*647. **Shri Shivananjappa:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Private limited company owned by Government has been registered to run the lignite mining Project at Neiveli;

(b) if so, whether the Directorate of the company has been nominated; and

(c) whether the new company has started functioning?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes. a company known as the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (Private) Limited has been registered at Madras on the 14th November, 1956.

(b) and (c). It is expected that the Directors will be notified and the Company will begin to function with effect from 6-12-56.

Shri Shivananjappa: What are the reasons that prompted the Government to run this project on a private limited Cowpany basis?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The same reasons that prompted us to register so many companies to manage State industrial concerns.

Dr. Rama Rao: Is it the intention of the Government to start a new company for every State industrial concern that is going to be started?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Yes, Sir; by and large that is the present policy of the Government.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know what is the authorised capital of this company?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The present share capital of the company is Rs. 25 crores.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know whether the shares will be held by the Central Government or the State Government?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Exclusively by the Central Government.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: What are the activities that this company will take up?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Mining lignite and making use of lignite for several purposes.

Industrial Housing

*654. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state the position with regard to the provision of housing accommodation under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Schemes to industrial workers employed in Government undertakings in public sector?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): The Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme provides primarily for grant of financial assistance for industrial workers in the private sector. However, industrial workers employed in such Central or State Governments undertakings as are liable to income-tax on the whole or part of their earnings, are also eligible for aid under the Scheme. Other Government undertakings have their own separate housing schemes as a part of the Project concerned.

Financial assistance amounting to Rs. 42·21 lakhs (Rs. 16·50 lakhs as loan and Rs. 25.71 lakhs as subsidy) for the construction of 3,232 tenements was sanctioned in favour of such undertakings upto the 22nd November, 1956, as against the total financial assistance of Rs. 23·68 crores (Rs. 12·28 crores as loan and Rs. 11·40 crores as subsidy) sanctioned for 85,266 tenements under the Scheme up to that date, since the Scheme came into force in September, 1952.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know whether there is any phased programme for meeting the growing need of accommodation in respect of industrial workers in the public sector so as to complete the housing accommodation for them in time?

Shri P. S. Naskar: Yes, Sir; we have. As I said in my original answer, industrial undertakings in the public sector who pay income-tax or other taxes on their earnings are eligible under this scheme. Other Government undertakings have their own separate housing schemes as a part of the project concerned. In the private sector, as I said in my original answer, we have already sanctioned Rs. 23 crores.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: What is the percentage of houses for industrial workers in the public sector that have been or are being built through co-operative societies, and what is the percentage of houses that are being built by the workers or labourers themselves?

Shri P. S. Naskar: So far as industrial workers as are eligible under this scheme for housing accommodation are concerned, I am not able to give the break-up of houses built by co-operative societies etc. I require notice for that.

Import and Export Trade of India

*696. **Shri Kajrolkar :**
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao :
Shri Sadhan Gupta:
Shri Gadilingana Gowd:
Shri Sanganna:
Dr. Rama Rao :
Shri Mohana Rao :

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the import and export trade of the country has been affected by the Suez Canal crisis;

(b) the steps Government propose to take to see that the programme of the Second Five Year Plan is not adversely affected by the temporary closing of the Suez Canal;

(c) whether Government have under consideration any revision of the targets set in the Second Five Year Plan in the light of the international situation affecting the Suez Canal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A precise assessment is not possible at this stage. Some delays in arrivals and shipments and an increase in the freight bill are, however, inevitable.

(b) to (d). If, as may be hoped, the closure of the Suez Canal is not unduly prolonged, it may not be necessary to revise the targets set in the Second Five Year Plan. It is too soon, however, to express any final opinion on the subject. Government are, however, endeavouring to secure that available shipping space is utilised to the best possible purpose.

Shri Kajrolkar: Do Government consider the feasibility of diverting the imports and exports *via* Cape of Good Hope until the Canal is cleared and conditions restored to normalcy, and if so, what would be the extra charges that we have to bear?

Shri Karmarkar: There is no question of feasibility, with very great respect I should like to say. The only other alternative is to take the longer route and pay higher freight charges. On the longer route the cost of export to foreign countries is likely to go up by Rs. 24 crores; that is about 6 per cent. The total cost of imports would rise by about 5½ per cent.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of the fact that the normal trade channels and normal supply channels for the Eastern and South-East Asian countries have been closed because of the blockade of the Suez Canal, may I know

whether Indian business has taken advantage of the Eastern and South-Eastern markets, and if so, how far?

Shri Karmarkar: By raising prices? I should like to have a little more clarification.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Not by raising prices. My question was whether, in veiw of the fact that normal supplies to Eastern and South-East Asian countries have been disturbed by the blockade of the Suez Canal—as those countries were importing their goods from the European market—the Indian business has taken advantage of the closure of the Suez Canal supply channel.

Shri Karmarkar: I have tried to understand the question and my reply is two-fold. Firstly, so far as our imports are concerned . . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: She is not talking of imports. She wants to find out whether there are certain other countries who were importing their goods from those in the West and, now that they are not getting goods from that side. whether we can explore those countries for our commodities.

Shri Karmarkar: Now I understand the question fully well. I think the answer is very simple. Our businessmen are quite as competent as any other businessmen. They will seek all opportunities for taking advantage of any situation that arises like this.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: What is the extra time required for ships to come by the Cape of Good Hope route, and what would be the shortage in shippings as a result of the increased length?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That would be difficult to give.

Shri Karmarkar: My colleague, the Minister for Communications, prompts me to say 9 to 21 days. I shall consult the time- tables and give the necessary reply.

Sri D. C Sharma: May I know if any difficulty has been felt so far in the arrivals of heavy meachinery and other kinds of mechanical equipments that are needed for the compeletion of our programme in connection with the Second Five Year plan ?

Shri Karmarkar: I hope my friend wants to know regarding the actual delay till the canal was actually blocked. There was no sizable delay so far as our exports and imports were concerned. For instance, except in two cases where two ships of Messrs. India Steam Ship Co. Ltd., Calcutta were delayed for over 24 hours on the 16th and 26th October, 1956, prior to the blocking of the Canal there was no noticeable delay so far as our goods were concerned.

It is too early to say now what will happen if the closure continues for a very long time.

Shri Joachim Alva : What is the effect of closure of the canal on the export of refined oil and crude oil?

Shri Karmarkar : Subject to correction, I do not think we export much of refined oil to the West. But, I shall find out.

Dr. Rama Rao : In view of the recent statement of the acting Prime Minister of U.K., Mr. R.A. Butler, that the British armies will not be completely evacuated from Egypt, do Government have any plans to organise imports from other sources?

Shri Karmarkar : This is a non-commercial question; with great respect I say it should be addressed to political parties.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The question is, if the Suez Canal is not opened for some more time, shall we have other sources ? This was answered in reply to another question.

Shri Karmarkar : I accept your suggestion. If something happens, something else is bound to happen. I would like to indicate that it is too early to say anything now. In answer to another supplementary, I have said that if the canal continues to be blocked for a certain period of time, whatever the reasons may be, whether it is evacuation or non-evacuation of the armies or anything else, or if any other situation develops we shall have to consider that position. At the moment it is too early to envisage what might happen if something else happens.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Apart from the hon. Minister's high appreciation for the Indian businessmen.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: She may put the question straightaway.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: What specific steps have been taken by the Indian business section to find out export markets in the South-East Asian countries since the blockade of the Suez Canal?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Would that be the responsibility of the Indian Government?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I beg to differ from the hon. Member. Therefore, that question need not be answered.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I would like to know what specific steps . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member could not enter into arguments. Next question.

Madras Corporation Proposals

*658. **Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Madras Corporation has made proposals through the State Government for:

(1) Slum Improvement,

(2) Housing Scheme for pavement dwellers,

(3) Water Supply,

(4) Drainage, and

(5) Subsidized Industrial Housing Schemes; and

(b) what action Government is taking thereupon?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Proposals have been received in respect of Slum-improvement and housing of pavement dwellers only.

(b) The matter was discussed by the Housing Adviser to the Government of India with the Corporation authorities at Madras in August, 1956, with a view to formulate proposals in conformity with the Central Slum-clearance Scheme. The proposals of the Corporation were to be revised in accordance with these discussions. The revised proposals are awaited.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: May I know what is the total amount demanded by the Madras Corporation for implementing their proposals for slum improvement etc. ?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The total demand of the Corporation is approximately Rs. 200 lakhs. . . . . .

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Are Government aware that unless these requirements of the Corporation are fulfilled, the capacity of the city to undertake other developmental work will suffer very much?

Shri P. S. Naskar: Slum clearance is essentially a State subject. The Central Government has a slum clearance scheme and under that scheme the provision for the second Five Year Plan period is about Rs. 15 crores. It is not possible at this stage to indicate how much money would be given to the Madras Corporation through the State Government for their schemes.

Shri V. P. Nayar : The hon. Parliamentary Secretary said that schemes have been received for slum improvement and housing of pavement dwellers. I would like to know whether in the proposals submitted by the Madras Corporation there are any precise indications as to the number of slums to be cleared and the number of pavement dwellers who are expected to be provided with houses.

Shri P. S. Naskar: Yes, Sir; In the slum improvement proposals of the Corporation, they say that the number of slums to be cleared is 67 and the number of families of pavement dwellers to be rehoused is about 2,000.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether after the announcement of the Government scheme for slum clearance, evacuations are taking place in the slum areas in many places? What steps have Government taken to prevent this evacuation?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That has been already answered; it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know if the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply give loans to State Governments for slum improvement, drainage and other works, in addition to the Ministry of Health?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply administer the slum clearance.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know the number of slums which existed before the first Five Year Plan, the number of slums cleared or improved during the first Plan period and the number of slums to be cleared under the second Five Year Plan? I want to know whether Government is very serious about the clearance of slums or not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whether they are earnest about it etc. have already been given perhaps in the documents contained in the second Five Year Plan. I do not know whether the Parliamentary Secretary can answer all these points now.

Shri P. S. Naskar: It is a big question. The details about the number of slums are not available with me at the moment. But, I may submit that it was not possible to do anything tangible during the first Five Year Plan, because of the competing claims of other developmental schemes on the limited resources that were available.

श्रीमती कमलेन्दुमति शाह : दिल्ली में स्लम्स को हटाने के बारे में और क्या क्या स्टैप्स लिए गए हैं, क्या मैं जान सकती हूं ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : इस साल का इस से कोई संबंध नहीं है ।

Shri C. R. Narasimhan : What is the amount required by the Madras Corporation under item(5) of the question—"Subsidised Industrial Housing Schemes?"

Shri P. S. Naskar : No such proposal has been received from the Madras Corporation.

निष्क्रान्त सम्पत्ति

*६६१ **डा० सत्यवादी :** क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली, अम्बाला छावनी और जलन्धर में ऐसी कितनी सम्पत्तियों को नीलाम किया गया जिनका मूल्य दस हजार रुपये से कम है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका क्या कारण है ?

पुनर्वास मन्त्री (श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना) : (क) और (ख). Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rule के अनुसार दस हजार रुपये या उससे कम कीमत के मकान और दुकान, तथा पचास हजार या इससे कम कीमत की औद्योगिक सम्पत्तियां (Industrial concerns) जो शरणार्थियों के कब्जे में हैं या उन्हें दी जा सकती हैं । जिन सम्पत्तियों की कीमत इस सीमा से अधिक है उन्हें नीलाम किया जाता है । लेकिन ऐसी जायदाद भी जिसकी कीमत इन हदों के अन्दर है, यदि वह खाली है या गैर शरणार्थी के कब्जेमें है, या नाजायज तौर से कब्जा की गई है या उसमें रहने वाला दावेदार या गैर दावेदार हो, उसको खरीदने को तैयार नहीं है तो वह भी नीलामी से बेची जा सकती है । मुमकिन है कि दस हजार से कम कीमत वाली इस तरह की कुछ जायदादें उन शहरों में नीलाम की गई हों । उनकी संख्या मालूम नहीं है ।

डा० सत्यवादी : इस किस्म की जायदादों में या मकानों में जो १०,००० रुपये की कीमत से कम है, अगर रहने वाला गैर शरणार्थी है और वह उसको लेने के लिये तैयार है तो क्या वह जायदाद या मकान उसे फिक्स्ड प्राइस पर या एस्टिमेटिड प्राइस पर देने के लिये गवर्नमेंट तैयार है ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : नहीं । पिछले साल सितम्बर के महीने में इस हाउस में जब कम्पेन्सेशन रूल्ज पास हुये थे, तो यह फैसला हुआ था कि जहां तक उन लोगों का ताल्लुक है, जो शरणार्थी नहीं हैं, अगर वे उस मकान को खरीदना चाहते हैं, जिसमें वे रह रहे हैं, या जो कि खाली है, तो उस मकान को नीलाम किया जायेगा ।

डा० सत्यवादी : क्या सरकार से इस प्रकार की कोई मांग की गई है कि दस हजार रुपये से कम की उन जायदादों को नीलाम न किया जाय, जिस में हरिजन आबाद हैं—जिस में वे पचास साल से आबाद हैं क्योंकि उनकी हालत अच्छी नहीं है और वे नीलाम में नहीं जा सकते हैं ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : जैसा कि मैंने अभी अर्ज किया है, रूल्ज के मुताबिक कार्यवाही हो रही है और जहां तक रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री का ताल्लुक है, हम हरिजनों या गैर-हरिजनों में—जहां तक शरणार्थियों का ताल्लुक है—कोई इमतियाज नहीं करते हैं ।

Locating of Central Government Offices in State Capitals

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*633 **Shri Gidwani:—**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :
Shri Bhakt Darshan :
Shri Kamath :
Shri D. C. Sharma :
Shri Jethalal Joshi :
Mulla Abdullabhai :

Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to locate some Central Government offices in the former State capitals which have

ceased to be capitals due to reorganisation of States ; and

(b) if so, which Central Government Offices will be shifted and where ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar) : (a) and (b). The possibility of locating some Central Government offices in the cities that have ceased to be State Capitals as a result of the reorganisation of the States is being examined in consultation with the State Governments concerned and the Ministries of the Government of India. The position about the availability of accommodation is however not yet clear as most of the State Governments are as yet considering their own requirements.

Shri Gidwani : May I know whether any report has been received from the Bombay Government about Nagpur city ?

Shri P. S. Naskar : As I said, the position about the availability of accommodation is not yet clear. The State Governments are considering their own requirements. We are not in a position to say anything definite.

Shri Gidwani : Do I understand that no State Government has submitted any report and the Government have not been able to come to any conclusion ?

Shri P. S. Naskar : The W. H. S. Ministry has written to the State Governments to ascertain the position about the availability of accommodation and our officers are also going to the various places, I have nothing more to add.

Shrimati Sushama Sen : May I know if there is any scheme for locating any offices in Simla and if, which offices ?

Shri P. S. Naskar : As I said in my original answer, in the present circumstances, it is not possible at this stage to say to what particular place any Central office would be removed.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या गवर्नमेंट ने उन दफ्तरों की सूची तैयार कर ली है, जिन्हें वह दिल्ली में सरप्लस समझती है ?

Shri P. S. Naskar : We have approached the other Central Government Ministries to indicate the possibility of locating some of their offices in the new places if suitable accommodation is available there.

Shri Kasliwal : This question of shifting Central offices from Delhi to the various former State capitals has come up before this House at various times. All the time, the answer that has been given is that the scheme is under examination. Now, I would like to know since how long the scheme continues to be under examination.

Shri P. S. Naskar : It concerns the various Ministries of the Central Government. It is not possible for me to say.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The hon. Member is anxious to know what more time would be required and not what has already been done.

Shri P. S. Naskar : After the States Reorganisation, we are taking steps, as I said, to find out the possibilities of having accommodation in the previous States capitals. They should tell us about the surplus accommodation. Also we are approaching the Central Ministries to say whether they can shift some of their offices there.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : The question of shifting some of the Central offices to some other place has not arisen due to the Reorganisation of States. It is being considered for a very long time. We want to know whether the Government has reached any decision whether they want to shift some of the offices or not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The answer has already been given.

Shri D. C. Sharma : Is it not a fact that the Central Government offices have shown great resistance in being shifted from Delhi ? If so, what has been done to overcome that resistance ?

Shri P. S. Naskar : I am not in a position to agree with the hon. Member that the Central Government is resisting. Our Ministry is trying its best to do anything that could be done.

Shri Jangde : The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister said that the various States have not yet submitted their requirements and they have not stated what would be the accommodation where the Central Government offices could be located. I want to know whether it is not a fact that the citizens of particular areas and State Governments have already made submissions to the Central Government and the Ministers of the Central Government have assured the people that some of the Central Government offices will be shifted to places like Nagpur and Gwalior ? If so, what definite steps is the Government taking ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : That answer has been given already.

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : जब से भारत आजाद हुआ है और बहुत सी देसी रियासतों का मर्जर हो गया है, तब से नई दिल्ली में

सैक्रेटेरियट के कितने नये आफिसिज बने हैं और उन मुकामों को जो कि देसी रियासतों के खाली हुये हैं, इस्तेमाल में क्यों नहीं लाया गया ?

Shri P. S. Naskar : I require notice for this.

मुल्ला अब्दुल्ला भाई : आनरेबल पार्लियामेंटरी सैक्रेटरी ने बताया है कि गवर्नमेंट को पता नहीं है कि नागपुर में और और जगहों में कितनी एकामोडेशन है । क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि क्या गवर्नमेंट को इसकी इत्तिला नहीं है कि नागपुर पहले कैपिटल था और वहां पर बहुत एकामोडेशन है ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मगर वह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से इत्तिला चाहते हैं, मेम्बरों से नहीं ।

Fertilizer Factories

*665 **Shri D. C. Sharma** :
Shri Ram Krishan :
Shri Viswanatha Reddy :

Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state :

(a) how far the setting up of factories for the production of fertilizers planned to be set up at Nangal and Neyveli has proceeded ; and

(b) how much time it will take to meet the present demand of chemical fertilizers ?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra) : (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 47.]

(b) the estimated demand at the end of the Second Five Year Plan period was expected to be met in full when the factories at Nangal, Neyveli and Rourkela went into full production in 1961-62.

More recent estimates, however, point to the necessity of increasing production capacity further.

Dr. Rama Rao : May I know at what state the proposed fertilisers factory in Andhra Desa, in Ramagundam or Bezwada is ?

Shri Satish Chandra : When more fertilizer factories are set up, these sites would be taken into consideration.

Allotment of Shops in Delhi

*666. **Shri Velayudhan** : Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the shops at the Pleasure Garden Market in Delhi have since been allotted ; and

(b) if so, on what basis the allotment has been made ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna) : (a) Yes. Barring a few.

(b) Allotments have been made purely on temporary basis to the eligible stall-holders of Lajpat Rai Market and to a few stall-holders of Esplanade Road, whose stalls obstructed the view and passage to the market.

Shri Velayudhan : May I know how many shops were allotted in the Pleasure Garden Market, whether the shops were allotted on the basis of taking lots or on what basis the shops were distributed ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : I think the number of shops in the new market is a little over 400. About 371 shops have already been allotted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The hon. Member wanted to now whether lots were drawn or any other method was adopted.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : For this I have to go back to the old Lajpat Rai Market which we are demolishing and which we are constructing afresh. That construction has been phased into three definite phases. We are trying to remove the people from there and put them in the new market so that their businesss is not distrubed. This allotment, as I have said, is only on a temporary basis.

Shri Velayudhan : My question is on what basis the shops were allotted—front row or back side,—whether any lot was taken that a particular section was to be given to a particular section, whether a magistrate was placed in charge of drawing of lots, and whether there was any complaint from the refugees that the lot was not drawn properly, that there was some *golmal* ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : The allotment is under the administrative control of the State Government, and the allotment was made by the Delhi State Government. If the hon. Member gives me notice, I will certainly have the question answered.

Shri Velayudhan : Apart from these two shop lines of Esplanade Road and

Lajpat Rai Market, may I know whether any fresh shopkeepers were given shops in this Pleasure Garden Market by ignoring the claims of the other people in these two markets ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : I do not think an eventuality like that is likely to arise because the number of shops at our disposal is small, and the number of claimants is large, but if definite notice is given of a definite case, I will certainly have it looked into.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Training of Engineers

*637. **Shri S. C. Samanta** : Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state ?

(a) how many Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers were given training in the principles of Accounting and Law relating to contract arbitration, limitation and workmen's compensation since 1954-55 ;

(b) what arrangements for training were made ; and

(c) how many of them passed their examinations and were employed in new posts ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar) : (a)

(i) *Training in Accounting.*

Executive Engineers	108
Assistant Engineers	400

(ii) *Training in Law.*

Executive Engineers	108

(b) Training in accounts and law was given through l ctures by the Financial Assistant and the Standing Counsel (respecti vely) attached to the Department. These arrangements have been discontinued from this year and the officers are required to prepare on thier own.

(c) (i) *Law.*

Executive Engineers	95

(ii) *Accounting.*

Executive Engineers	53
Assistant Engineers	127

The question of their employment in new posts does not arise ; the examinations are intended for the officers of the department.

High Tension Insulator Factory in Bihar

*641. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha** : Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a high tension insulator factory in Bihar; and

(b) if so, in which place and district ?

The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The scheme of Bihar Government for setting up a factory to manufacture, 2000 tons of High Tension Insulators has been approved.

(b) The location of the plant has not yet been decided.

Training of Engineers Abroad

*648 **Sardar Iqbal Singh** : **Sardar Akarpuri** :

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2088-A. on the 12th September, 1956 and state :

(a) whether the selection of candidates proposed to be sent abroad for training in small industries under the Colombo Plan has since been finalised ; and

(b) if so, the basis of their selection ?

The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Viet-Nam

*649. **Shri Shree Narayan Das** : Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new Government of South Viet-Nam have expressed any opinion with regard to their responsibility in implementing the terms and conditions of Geneva agreements ; and

(b) if so, whether there has been any change in its previous attitude ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a) and (b). The South Viet-Nam Government has agreed to offer effective cooperation to the Commission but is not prepared to assume responsibility for the implementation of the Geneva Agreement on the plea that it was not signatory to it.

Magnesium Extraction Plant

*650. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy** : Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a magnesium extraction plant to extract magnesium metal from Salem Magnisite along with the aluminium plant at Mettur Dam ;

(b) the requirement of magnesium metal in India and the purpose thereof; and

(c) the price of magnesium metal per ton and its export prospects ?

The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The country's present requirements of magnesium metal are 50 tons per annum. The metal is used for the manufacture of light Aluminium. Magnesium alloys, which are widely used in the aircraft industry and also as a reducing agent in metallurgical operations and for flares in the Defence services.

(c) The approximate price of the metal is Rs 3,500/- per ton in ingot form. Since the country's requirements are being met entirely by imports, the possibility of export does not arise.

Slum Clearance in Madras State

*651. **Shri Balakrishnan** : Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madras Government have submitted a revised scheme for the clearance and improvement of slums in Madras State ; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the Scheme submitted by the Madras Government ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar) : (a) Yes ; slum clearance proposals drawn up in the light of the Central Slum Clearance Scheme have been received from the State Government.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 48.]

Ferro-Manganese Plants

*652. **Shri Tulsidas** : Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in implementing the various schemes for setting up ferromanganese plants in the country ;

(b) whether the progress in setting up the plants is satisfactory; and

(c) whether any additional units are proposed to be licensed ?

The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah) : (a) and (b). Licences have been granted to seven firms for manufacture of ferro-manganese. Out of these, six have taken "effective steps" and the progress made by them is generally, satisfactory.

(c) Against the target capacity of 1,60,000 tons to be attained by 1960-61, so far a capacity for 1,33,800 tons has been licensed. Applications for balance capacity will be considered as and when received.

Visit of the P. M. of Nepal

*655. **Shri Gadilingana Gowd** : Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister of Nepal has agreed to visit India ; and

(b) if so, when this visit will take place ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a) and (b). The Prime Minister of Nepal has accepted our invitation to visit India. He is arriving on 3rd December 1956 and spending about 17 days in this country.

Farmers' Bulletins

*657 **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha** :
Shri Deogam :
Shri Kamath :

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what are the salient features of the farmers' bulletins which are broadcast by A.I.R. ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : The Farmers' Weather Bulletins give district-wise forecast of weather during the next 36 hours together with a further outlook for the following two days taking into consideration the weather requirements of individual crops of the season ?

South Patel Nagar

*659. **Shri Tek Chand** : Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 1504 on 28th August, 1956 and state the extra expenditure incurred on the increase of the width and depth of foundations of the 36 houses constructed on the land in South Patel Nagar, which was very low, due to the existence of pools and brick kilns ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 49.]

Export Promotion Council :

*660. **Shri M. Islamuddin**:
Shri Tulsidas :

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 1510 on 28th August, 1956 and state whether Government have set up any of the Export Promotion Council proposed to be set up during the year ?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar): Export Promotion Councils for Mica and Leather have been set up. Export Promotion Councils for Shellac and Sports goods are likely to be set up soon.

D.D.T. Factory

*664. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi :**
Shri Ram Krishan :

Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to open D.D.T. Factory in the former Travancore-Cochin State; and

(b) if so, when will it be opened?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) It is expected to go into production by the middle of 1958.

Cloth Quotas

*667. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra :** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any special scheme to increase cloth quotas and also to reduce prices for flood stricken areas of different zones; and

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in quotas and reductions in prices of cloth?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) No special scheme was formulated.

(b) Does not arise.

Committee on Re-rolling Industry

*668. **Shri Tulsidas:**
Shri Aniruddha Sinha:
Pandit D. N. Tiwary :

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee on the development of the Steel Re-rolling Industry has submitted its report; and

(b) if not, when it is expected?

The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) By the end of December, 1956.

Manufacture of Motor Cycles

*669. **Shri V. P. Nayar :** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Royal Enfield Motor Cycle Manufacturing Company is starting the manufacture of Motor Cycles in India ;

(b) if so, whether the undertaking is in collaboration with Indian Capital; and,

(c) if so, the proportion of Indian and foreign capital?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) (a) and (b). M/s Enfield India, Ltd., Madras, have already started the manufacture of Royal Enfield Motor-Cycles in collaboration with M/s Enfield Cycle Co. Ltd., of the U.K.

(c) The proportion of Indian and foreign capital in the ordinary shares issued so far is 9 : 1.

Trade Marks Enquiry Committee

*670. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha :**
Shri Veeraswamy:
Shri Ram Krishan :

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state to what extent the report of the Trade Marks Enquiry Committee has been examined so far?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar): The Report of the Trade Marks Enquiry Committee was initially examined by an Officer on Special Duty. Subsequently the recommendations of the Committee and the observations thereon of the officer on Special Duty were reviewed by a High Court Judge. The recommendations of the Committee have been considered in the light of the observations made by the Reviewing Judge and specific proposals for the amendment of the Trade Marks Act have been formulated. These proposals are being circulated to Commercial Organisations in the country for comments.

Newsprint Factories

*671. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to state whether Government have taken any decision regarding the installation of newsprint factories in the country during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah): It is proposed to put up a newsprint plant at Shakarnagar (Hyderabad) with an annual capacity of 30,000 tons. The question of further capacity will be considered in due course.

Evacuee Properties

*672. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there are a number of evacuee properties in the possession of unauthorised occupants in Bombay State;

(b) whether it is a fact that they are not being taken possession of by the Custodian Department, Bombay;

(c) whether it is a fact that in some cases though these properties have been allotted to Displaced Persons and the allottees have deposited the required amount for the same yet, they have not been given possession ;

(d) whether any fresh orders have been issued by Government in this connection; and

(e) if so, what is the nature of these orders?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna) : (a) and (b). There are in all 140 cases of unauthorised occupation of evacuee properties in the whole State of Bombay, as it existed before 1st November 1956. 134 of these relate to Godhra where some evacuee houses were occupied by persons rendered homeless in 1948 after the disturbances. As a matter of general policy, the unauthorised occupations are being regularised as it is not a practical proposition to eject these persons after the lapse of eight years. In Bombay, there are six cases of unauthorised occupation and in five of these taking over of possession had been stayed by the Custodian General or High Court.

(c) There was one such case but the allottee has since been put in possession.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

Training and Employment Services Organisation Committee

*673. **Shri Bansal** : Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to lay a statement indicating the details of the main recommendations of the Training and Employment Services Organisation Committee which have been implemented?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha indicating the details of the main recommendations of the Training and Employment Services Organisation Committee which have been implemented. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 50].

Posts and Telegraphs Department Museum

*674. **Shri D. C. Sharma** : Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred Question No. 668, on the 2nd August, 1956 and state :

(a) whether any decision has been arrived at as regards the setting up of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department Museum; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The question of setting up of a P. & T. Museum is still being actively pursued. It is however, too early to state the nature of decisions at this stage.

डालमियानगर में सीमेंट का कारखाना

*६७५. **श्री विभूति मिश्र** क्या **भारी उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देहरी ग्रान-सोन (डालमियानगर) के सीमेंट के कारखाने में उत्पादन शुरू हो गया है :

(ख) कारखाने का दैनिक उत्पादन क्या है ग्रौर उसे ग्रधिक से ग्रधिक कितना बढ़ाया जा सकता है ; ग्रौर

(ग) वहां जो सीमेंट तैयार किया जाता है वह किस तरह का है ?

भारी उद्योग मंत्री (श्री म० म० शाह) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) माननीय सदस्य का मतलब शायद डालमियानगर में बने ग्रशोक सीमेंट लि० के नये कारखाने से है । इस कारखाने में इस समय करीब ५५० टन सीमेंट हर रोज बनता है । जो लाइसेंस दिया गया है, उसके ग्रनुसार इस कारखाने की क्षमता साल में २,८०,००० टन ग्रर्थात् करीब ८५० टन सीमेंट प्रति दिन बनाने की है । इस

उत्पादन क्षमता को और भी बढ़ा कर ५,६०,००० टन सालाना कर देने की अनुमति इस फर्म को दे दी गई है ।

(ग) इस कारखाने में बना हुआ सीमेंट "१९५१ के आई एस एस २६९" स्पेसिफिकेशन के अनुसार होगा ।

Lubricating Oils

*676. **Shri V. P. Nayar** : Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) the early requirements of lubricating oils envisaged in the Second Plan, for each year;

(b) the reasons because of which the production of Lubricating oils and petroleum coke were not included at the time of negotiations for the setting up of oil refineries; and

(c) whether the Government of India have plans to produce lubricating oil in the country in the near future?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House giving annual estimated requirements of lubricating oils and greases during 1956-1960. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 51].

(b) Priority was given to the production of motor gasoline, kerosine, diesel oils and fuel oils.

(c) The feasibility of producing lubricating oils will be examined along with the new schemes for stepping up the oil refining capacity in the country.

Indians in Africa

472. **Shri Ram Krishan** : Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indians in African countries, country-wise; and

(b) the occupation they follow?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (*b*). A statement containing the information, as far as available, is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 52.]

Employment Exchanges

473. **Shri Ram Krishan** : Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of additional employment exchanges to be opened this year in the re-organised Punjab ; and

(b) the areas in which these will be opened?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) Two.

(b) At Yamunanagar and Bhatinda in Punjab.

Trade with Afghanistan

474. **Shri Ram Krishan** : Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1737 on the 12 September, 1956 and state the action taken on the representations of the Indo-Afghan Chamber of Commerce, Delhi and the Indo-Foreign Chamber of Commerce Amritsar, regarding discrimination by the Afghan Government against Indian traders?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : The complaint in so far as it relates to imports into India no longer holds good.

Plantation Inquiry Committee

475. **Shri Ram Krishan :**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Tulsidas:
Shri K. P. Tripathi :
Shri Hem Raj :

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has since considered the report of the Plantation Inquiry Committee ; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The Plantation Inquiry Commission's Report on tea is at present under examination in consultation with the other Ministries, State Governments, producers' Associations, Tea Board, etc. No decision has been taken so far.

The Commission submitted its report on coffee very recently and initial examination has just begun.

The Commission is yet to submit its report on rubber.

Export of Sewing Machines

476. **Shri Ram Krishan** : Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state the total number of sewing machines exported to different countries during the current year so far (Country-wise)

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar): The necessary information has been set out in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure, No. 53]

Employment Exchange, Bikaner

477. **Shri Karni Singhji** : Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 385 on the 14th March, 1956 and state:

(a) the number of persons registered at the Bikaner Employment Exchange (Rajasthan) from the 1st February, 1956 to the 30th October, 1956;

(b) the number of those who have so far been provided with employment; and

(c) the number of such registered persons who have not been given a single chance during the year 1956 with reasons?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) 4,223.

(b) 274.

(c) This information is not readily available.

Green Tea Market

478. **Shri Hem Raj** : Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Kangra Tea Planters Association and the Kangra Valley Small Tea Growers' Association for sending delegation to Afghanistan to study the conditions of Green Tea Market there; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Tea Board, which is looking after the interests of the Tea Industry, have decided to send a delegation to study the situation.

Soft Coke

479. **Shri V. P. Nayar** : Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) the annual requirement of soft coke, as estimated, during each of the years of the Second Five Year Plan;

(b) how much of this will be met by the Neiveli Lignite Project; and

(c) whether Government contemplate to utilise the lignite reported to be available in Kerala State to meet the requirement of soft coke?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The estimated annual demand for soft coke during each year of the Second Five Year Plan is as follows:

Year	Estimated requirements in million tons
1956-57 . .	1·86
1957-58 . .	2·17
1958-59 .	2·48
1959-60 . .	2·79
1960-61 . .	3·00

(b) None, as carbonised lignite briquettes on a commercial scale are scheduled to be produced only in the second half of 1961.

(c) The work of systematic mapping and survey of the lignite deposits in the Warkalai formation in the Kerala State has been included by the Geological Survey of India in the field Programme for 1956-57. If the survey proves promising, detailed prospecting will be taken up and a decision on the feasibility and economics of exploitation of these deposits will be possible.

Synthetic Pharmaceuticals

480. **Shri V. P. Nayar** : Will the Minister of **Heavy Industries** be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the latest position in the manufacture of synthetic pharmaceuticals giving details of :

(a) names of synthetic pharmaceuticals developed in India from (i) primary basic organic chemicals, (ii) intermediate products and (iii) from the penultimate products; and

(b) the quantities manufactured in each item under (i) and (ii) above?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 54].

Mail Vans

481. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) number of Mail Vans, zone-wise at prdesent;

(b) the programme according to which the small Mail Vans will the converted or replaced by large Vans; and

(c) what standard or pattern that has been decided in this connection?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a)

(1) Western Rly.	20
(2) Eastern Rly.	6
(3) South Eastern Rly.	26
(4) Northern Rly.	21
(5) Central Rly.	28
(6) North Eastern Rly.	11
(7) Southern Rly.	11
TOTAL	123

(b)

1956-57	20	The possibility of speeding up this programme is being considered.
1957-58	19	
1958-59 to 1960-61	84	
TOTAL	123	

(c)

S.Q. mail van	1 sorter.
S.H. " "	2-3 "
S.T. " "	3-4 "
S.W. " "	6-7 "
S.W. " "	7-8 "
Bogie " "	9-10 "

Small Scale Industry Products

482. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state the details and the value of each kind of small scale industry products that have been purchased from Bihar in 1955-56 by the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P.S. Naskar): Orders for Small Scale Industry products are placed by the D.G.S. & D. after inviting quotations by advertised tender on competitive basis.

No orders for Small Scale Industry products were placed by the D. G. S. & D. in Bihar during 1955-56, as no competitive offer was received.

Purchase of Planes from Russia

483. Shri D. C. Sharma :
Shri Gidwani:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri Debendra Nath Sarma :

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 165 on the 21st July 1956 and state whether Government have so far purchased any planes from Russia for use by the Indian Airlines Corporation ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): No planes have been purchased from Russia so far for use by the Indian Airlines Corporation, as full technical data have yet to be received.

State Trading Corporation

484. Shri Bansal :
Shri D. C. Sharma :
Shri Tulsidas :
Dr. Rama Rao :
Shri Mohana Rao :
Shri Viswanatha Reddi :

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) the total value for which firm contracts have been entered into by the State Trading Corporation ever since it came into being;

(b) the total value of contracts so far fulfilled ; and

(c) the break-up of the contracts country-wise and commodity-wise ?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) Rs. 17,36,71,207/-/-.

(b) Rs. 1,03,10,933/-/-.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 55].

Rent Free Accommodation to certain Officers

485. Shri Velayudhan : Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any officials getting regular salary from the Government of India are treated on par with Ministers with regard to rent free and free furnished houses and other allowances ; and

(b) if so, who are they ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). Certain high functionaries namely the Deputy Chairman and members of the Planning Commission, the Chairman of the Central Social Welfare Board, the Chairman of the Finance Commission and the Chairman of the Company Law Advisory Board have been granted the concession of rent free furnished accommodation. They get no allowances other than travelling and daily allowances, when on tour.

Indo-Ceylon Air Agreement

486. Shri D. C. Sharma : Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposals regarding the revision of the Indo-Ceylon Air Agreement have been finalised ; and

(b) if so, what is their nature ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) There has been no proposal under consideration for revision of the Indo-Ceylon Air Transport Agreement.

(b) Does not arise.

विदेशों से वाणिज्यक लेन देन

४८७. **डा० राम सुभग सिंह** : क्या वाणिज्य और उपभोग-वस्तु उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत सरकार पश्चिमी गोलार्ध तथा यूरोप के किन-किन देशों के साथ भारतीय रुपयों में वाणिज्यिक लेन देन करती है ?

व्यापार मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : सोवियत संघ, पोलैंड, पूर्व-जर्मनी, चेकोस्लावाकिया, हंगरी, रूमानिया, बल्गेरिया और यूगोस्लाविया ।

Mandi Rock Salt Mines

488. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the development of the Mandi Rock Salt Mines during 1956; and

(b) the amount of money spent on it so far ?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy) : (a) No drilling operation have been undertaken since June 1955.

(b) Rs. 2,17,420/-.

Installation of Telephones

489. Shri D. C. Sharma : Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of additional telephones applied for installation at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during 1955-56 and 1956-57 so far ; and

(b) the total number of telephones installed there at present ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 29,885 applications for telephones were received.

	1955-56	1956-57	Total
Bombay	2,859	4,588	7,447
Calcutta	11,277	8,161	19,438
Madras	1,732	1,268	3,000
TOTAL	15,868	14,017	29,885

(b) Bombay 54,505
Calcutta 52,456
Madras 13,994

1,20,955

Heavy Water Production

490. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary :**
Sardar Iqbal Singh :
Sardar Akarpuri :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken for the production of Heavy Water at Sindri; and

(b) if so, when it is expected to be produced ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Delivery of Letters

491. **Shri Bheekha Bhai :** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that letters despatched at Garhi in Banswara District are delivered in Sagwara after seven days;

(b) if so, the reasons for this; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take in this regard ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). It is not a fact that letters despatched at Garhi are delivered in Sagwara after seven days. Mails posted at Garhi upto 14.30 hrs. reach Sagwara the same day at 1800 hrs. and are delivered the next day at the window at 12.30 hrs. and through Postmen at 13 hrs. The possibility of effecting an earlier delivery at Sagwara is being examined and requisite action will be taken.

Telephone and Telegraph Connections

492. **Shri B. K. Das :** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no direct telephonic and telegraphic line connection between Contai and Kharagpur in the Midnapur District and a good deal of delay and other inconveniences are caused to the public for sending messages, both telephonic and telegraphic, to Calcutta and other important places from Contai ; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to remove this difficulty ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No. There is a direct telegraphic circuit connecting Contai to Kharagpur. Telephonically Contai is connected to Kharagpur *via* Balasore Exchange. There might have been occasional minor delays but no undue delay has been caused in the transmission of telegraph or telephone messages from Contai.

(b) For telegraphs a direct circuit exists between Contai and Kharagpur. Shortly Kharagpur will have teleprinter working with Calcutta and this will result in even quicker transmission. On the telephone circuit only four calls were booked from Contai in the last 40 days. These were to Midnapur. A direct circuit to Kharagpur is at present not justified.

Khadi and Village Industries Board Employees

493. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha :**
Shri Deogam :
Shri Kamath :

Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state the details of the grade scales of Khadi and Village Industries Board employees ?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy) : Scales of pay prescribed for the officers and staff of the all India Khadi and Village Industries Board are as follows:

A—*Cadres and scales of pay prescribed by the Board.*

Class	Designation	Scale of pay
Class II (non-gazetted)	Superintendents, Organisers, Liaison Officers etc.	200—25—300—EB—10—400
Class III	Assistant Accounts Clerks, etc.	100—10—200—EB—10—300
Class III . .	Clerks, Clerk-Typists, etc.	55—10—105—EB—10—155.
Class IV . .	Peons	40—2—60

In addition to pay, the employees are eligible to draw local compensatory allowance on the following rates, subject to the conditions that the overall pay inclusive of compensatory local allowance shall not exceed Rs. 400/- p.m.

Station of appointment	Amount of Compensatory Local Allowance.
1. Towns with a population of 1,00,000 . . .	Rs. 20/-
2. Bombay, Poona, Ahmedabad, Madras, Delhi, Calcutta	Rs. 40/-.

B.—*Central Government scales of pay adopted by the Board.*

Class	Designation	Scale of pay
Class I . . .	Chief Executive Officer .	Grade pay in the Senior scale of pay of the Indian Administrative Service *plus* Rs. 300/- Special pay for I.A.S. Officers. (for others Rs. 1100—50—1300—60—1600 100—1900).
Class I . . .	Directors . .	600—40—1000—1000—1050—1050—1100—1100—1150.
Class I . . .	Deputy Director (Research Institute).	600—40—800—50—1150 *plus* special pay of Rs. 200/- p.m
Class I . . .	Departmental Heads . .	600—40—800—50—1150.
Class I . .	Assistant Cane Gur Adviser .	350—350—380—30—590—30—770—30—850.
Class II (Gazetted)	Chief Accounts Officers .	500—35—850.
Class II (Gazetted)	Sr. Research Officer, Sanchalak etc.	500—30—800.
Class II (Gazetted)	Office Secretary (R.I. Wardha)	420—20—500
Class II (Gazetted)	Assistant Accounts Officer .	350—25—650
Class II (Gazetted)	Sr.Mechanical Engineer,Asstt. Director etc. (Ambar Charkha Programme).	350—25—500—30—800
Class II (Gazetted)	Assistant Director . . .	325—25—500—EB—30—590
Class II (Gazetted)	Dy. Assistant Accounts Officer	325—25—500—EB—30—590
Class I (Gazetted)	Editor	325—25—550—30—700
Class II (Gazetted)	Research Officer . . .	275—25—500—EB—10—650—EB—30—800
Class II (Gazetted)	Engineer	350—350—30—380—380—410
Class II) Non-Gazetted).	Jr. Mechanical Engineer . .	220—15—400—EB—20—450
Class II (Non-Gazetted).	Assistants . .	220—15—400—EB—20—500—EB—25—650.
Do.	Accountant	220—15—380—EB—20—500
Do.	Jr. Scientific Officer . .	250—15—400—EB—20—500
Do.	Sr. Economic Investigator .	250—10—500
Class III . .	Librarian Senior . . .	160—10—300—15—450
Do.	Laboratory Supervisor . .	160—10—300
Do.	Jr. Economic Investigator .	160—10—300
Do.	Mechanical Drawing Officer .	150—7—185—EB—8—225
Do.	Electrician . . .	100—8—140—10—200—EB—10—300
Do.	Draftsmen . .	100—5—125—6—155—EB—6—185
Do.	Storekeeper . .	80—5—120—EB—8—200—10/2—220
Do.	Qualified Mechanics . .	60—5/2—75—3—105
Do.	Skilled Artisans . . .	50—5/2—75—3—105
Do.	Motor Driver . . .	60—5/2—75
Do.	Lower Division Clerks . .	55—3—85—EB—4—125—5—130
Class IV	Peons	30—1—35

The emplyees against the above posts are eligible to draw the usual allowances at Central Goverenment rates.

Documentary Films

494. **{Sardar Iqbal Singh : Sardar Akarpuri:**

Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of documentary films produced from the 1st July, 1956, so far;

(b) the topics on which they were produced; and

(c) the languages in which they were produced?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) 20.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the title, subject and languages of the documentaries is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix II, annexure No. 56].

Evacuee Properties

495. **{Sardar Iqbal Singh: Sardar Akarpuri:**

Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the total number of evacuee properties auctioned during the period from February to the end of October 1956, State-wise?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of Lok Sabha in due course.

DAILY DIGEST

[*Friday, 30th November, 1956*]

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656	Import and Export trade of India	780—83
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666	Allotment of Shops in Delhi	790—91
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659	South Patel Nagar	794
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477	Employment Exchange, Bikaner	801
478	Green Tea Market	801
479	Soft Coke	802
480	Synthetic Pharmaceuticals	802
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Dated 23.03.2016

LOK SABHA

Friday, 30th November, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12-01 HRS.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following three messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 27th November, 1956, agreed without any amendment to the States Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st November, 1956."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 29th November, 1956, agreed without any amendment to the Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Continuance Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd November, 1956."

(iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 27th November, 1956, agreed without any amendment to the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 16th November, 1956."

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO PREVENTION OF ADULTERATION RULES

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, a copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 2755, dated the 24th November, 1956, making certain amendments to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-510/56.]

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

TWENTY-FIRST REPORT

Shri V. B. Gandhi (Bombay City-North): I beg to present the Twenty-first Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Excess over Voted Grants and Charged Appropriations included in the Appropriation Accounts (Civil), 1952-53.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS LICENSING BILL

PRESENTATION OF *REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to regulate and licence institutions caring for women and children.

CHILDREN BILL

PRESENTATION OF **REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the care, protection, maintenance, welfare training, education and rehabilitation of neglected children and juvenile delinquents in Part C States as passed by Rajya Sabha.

ELECTRICITY (SUPPLY) AMENDMENT BILL

PRESENTATION OF ***REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah Jhalawar): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.

EVIDENCE

Shri Kasliwal: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the evidence tendered before the Select Committee on the Electricity (Supply) Amendment Bill, 1955.

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL†

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I introduce the Bill.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): With your permission, I rise to announce the order of Government Business in this House during the week commencing Monday, 3rd December, 1956.

Business left unfinished from today's Order Paper will be taken up for disposal first. This is expected to include consideration of the Proclamation issued by the President in relation to the State of Kerala and the Central Sales Tax Bill.

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*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Sestion 2, dated 30-11-56, pp. 1055A-1055J.

**Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated 30-11-56, pp. 1055J/1-1055J/22.

***Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated 30-11-56, pp. 1055J/23-1055J/61.

†Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated 30-11-56, pp. 1031—35.

The following Bills will be brought forward thereafter:

1. The Standards of Weights and Measures Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee.

2. The Road Transport Corporation (Amendment) Bill.

3. The Employees Provident Funds (Amendment) Bill.

4. The Indian Statistical Institute Bill.

One or two Bills may be added to this list. In that event, I will make an announcement about their place in the order of business next Monday.

Discussion on **Shri Feroze Gandhi's** motion regarding the Report of the Government Inspector of Railways on the derailment of 319 Down Express at a girder bridge between Jangaon and Raghunathpalli stations on the 27th September, 1954, will take place at 3 P.M. on Wednesday, 5th December.

I may also take the opportunity of informing the House that the Minister of Finance proposes to make a statement today at 4-30 P.M. For this I would like to have your permission.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar (Tiruppur): On what?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Some financial matter. It cannot be announced earlier.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not possible at this stage for Government to disclose to what it might relate.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: You can very well understand the nature of the thing.

This will mean that the Government business today should be finished at 2 O'Clook, and Private Member's Business should commence at that time, so that at 4-30 P.M. Private Member's Business might conclude, and this statement may be taken up.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgrah Distt.—West *cum* Rae Bareli Distt. —East): The Jangaon-Raghunathpalli report will be taken up on the 5th December. I find that the report of the Inspector, which is a very serious document, has not been laid on the Table of the House so far, although, I think, it was published some time in 1954. I shall be obliged if you will kindly direct the Minister of Railways to place a copy of this report on the Table of the House.

Shri Punnoose (Alleppey): It may be circulated.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is necessary that it should be laid on the Table of the House if it is be discussed. The Government has disclosed that it is prepared for discussion on the 5th December. Therefore, this must be laid on the Table of the House, if it has not been laid already.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: It will be done.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: There is another thing in connection with that report. There are two reports. One is the report of the Reviewing Committee, and the other the report of the Inspector. We would like both the reports to be laid on the Table of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Government has been told like that, and perhaps they will see what reports can be laid on the Table of the House, but what is to be discussed must be laid on the Table of the House before the discussion is taken up.

Dr. Jaisoorya (Medak): May I inform you that not a single copy is available in the Library?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Because it nas not been laid on the Table as yet.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: There was one copy which I have taken.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: As the House is aware, there will be special Government business from 4-30 to 5 P.M. Therefore, non-official business shall commence at 2 O'clock. The hon. Member who has to move must be present at that time, so that the time might not suffer.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): About the Proclamation on Kerala State the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has not stipulated the time. We would like to know how much time would be available.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Five hours has already been announced.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That has been announced and approved by the House.

SUPPRESSION OF IMMORAL TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND GIRLS BILL—*concld.*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Datar on the 29th November, 1956:

> "That the Bill to provide in pursuance of the International Convention signed at New York on the 9th day of May, 1950 for the suppression of immoral traffic in women and girls, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

Shri Raghavachari may continue his speech, which was not concluded yesterday when the Lok Sabha rose.

Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda): I was making certain observations on this Bill yesterday evening. I was particularly referring to the title of the Bill being very appropriate because the scope of the Bill is not to root out or abolish this bad disease from society, but more to suppress the traffic, and I was mentioning my apprehension that this "suppression etc. Bill" might only drive this activity underground and not necessarily achieve the healthy purpose that is desirable.

I have gone through the provisions of this Bill very carefully and to my mind it looks as though the framers of this Bill have put into it all conceivable punishments and restrictions and restraints on the persons either involved in it directly or trying to aid or bring about this business to continue in society. It is such a delicate matter where any amount of restrictions and any number of clauses providing for punishment may not really prove successful. But the real thing to consider is what exactly are the causes for the prevalence of this disease and how those causes can be removed. Some hon. Members may say that mostly it is due to the economic dependence or the helpless economic situation of a number of our women population. I agree to it mostly. But to my mind, it looks as if this is entirely or exclusively an urban problem. My impression is that this is not much prevalent in the rural areas as in the urban areas. It is more a matter which is confined to places of resort, to places of commercial importance, to ports and cities.

So, in this sense, it is really an urban problem, and it has assumed very large proportions. As civilisation advances, and as people gather in the towns, this institution spreads gradually. In the olden days, generally, it was confined to a particular street or to a particular locality. But, unfortunately, as the congregation of people went on increasing, this institution also spread into streets and lanes, and I may even say, into quarters where even decent people are living. That is rather unfortunate. So, the best

course would be, no doubt, to prevent it and express society's disapproval of the institution in all aspects.

There are provisions in this Bill which may simply satisfy the framers that they have forged an instrument which is expected to do the trick. But my own impression is that many of these provisions are rather very rigid, and I would say also that the punishments proposed are very severe and harsh.

There is, however, one good thing which the provisions of this Bill contain, and that is that in most cases discretion has been given to the courts to use the powers in regard to probation, the powers of admonition, the powers of demanding good behaviour, and also the provisions similar to section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code. These things take away a little of the severity, and I hope that possibly the courts will make use of these provisions more literally rather than resort in the very first instance to inflict punishments for a minimum period of two years, five years and so on as provided in the Act.

Then, I feel that the provisions of this Bill are such that, if this Bill is really put into effect and administered very efficiently, the life of the people who might be found to have erred once and who might be caught into the arm of the law may become miserable thereafter; and their position in society may become intolerable. For, there is a provision that the courts may ask them to give their change of addresses for the next five years. There is also the provision that they will be taken away to a protective home or something like that. My fear is that if all such people are gathered at one place, then, correction or reformation becomes very difficult. The real solution is that there must be a number of such homes in almost every urban area, not one but more than one. The provision in this Bill is to the effect that the States may have an institution of this kind. I would expect that there should be more of such institutions in every place with a population of one lakh and more. These institutions are very essential in such places.

Under the provisions of this Bill, a special police officer is being contemplated to carry out the purposes of this measure, and he may be assisted by a number of persons. That would ultimately mean that the ordinary police constables will be assisting him, and we shall be entrusting the life and fate of these people to the whims and fancies of those ordinary police constables, who might themselves not be persons who would sympathise with the objective of uprooting or abolishing this evil, but who might be persons who might take advantage of such an institution. Therefore, I would suggest that the special police officer as well as the other police officers who may assist him must, as far as possible, be women. That would minimise the severity of the provisions as also any possible misuse or abuse of those provisions. Although it may be difficult immediately to get such efficient women police officers, yet, Government, who are training so many persons every day, might recruit proper people of good status, of good equipment and good culture, to man these offices and also must be uplifted by love and sympathetically more with an eye to correct and reform rather than with a view to punish the offenders.

Since, mostly, this disease might be the result of the economic dependence or the helplessness of those people who are unemployed or who are not happily married, I would suggest that such people also may be encouraged to get training in these protective homes, so that they may find for themselves a useful and an honourable occupation in life, which will reduce the chances of the prevalence and spread of this disease.

Then, I would suggest that a corrective by way of public opinion is also very necessary. Thereby I mean that there must be education of the public to abhore this evil. It is not

[Shri Raghavachari]

that society sympathises with these things. In fact, the old notions in India continues even today, and it abhors this practice and this business. But modern trends are more conducive to the spread of this disease to a greater and greater extent, in the absence of that feeling of the pricking of the conscience. Our modern cinemas, our modern way of life, our modern tendencies, our modern beliefs and our modern ideals, —all seem to take away something of the sanctity attached to chestity, faithfulness and its place of honour. Unfortunately, these things are slowly loosening themselves, and naturally, our law must suit itself to the changing society as it grows. Now, we have technical advancement of all kinds, of aids for getting into this bad business, without the consequences provided by nature in the state of children (which themselves were a check) and so on. So, the more science advances, the more these notions gather ground, the more this business spreads into society. Therefore, better education, education of the right sort, according to the old ideals of paying regard and respect to chastity and faithfulness, is absolutely necessary. But, this is not a matter which can be done in a day or by one individual. As I have said already, we must have more and more homes for training them and for fitting them for profitable occupations, as well as a number of corrective institutions. If these institutions are to be successful, they must be, naturally, in the hands of women of the right status. I would particularly request the Government that they do train up the required personnel for the administration of these homes. They should be mostly women, and only in exceptional cases, men. Otherwise, the very institution may result in the abuse which we want to drive away. It may go from particular places and concentrate in another place.

I object to the provision relating to search without warrant, the search of houses by police officers. It is said that urgency requires that. There may not be such an urgency created all of a sudden because it is promiscuity and the habitual thing that constitutes the offence. There is no need for a police officer to enter a house for search without warrant. It is said that within 200 yards of public places like schools, hospitals or some other institutions an arrest can be made. It is likely to lead to great oppression; it may become an engine of oppression. Particularly, in big cities if you go on circling places within 200 yards of schools and other institutions, then the whole city will be included in that. Therefore, you can enter any place without warrant at any time. It must always be that before you search any place the warrant must issue from a magistrate who might be expected to have given some thought to this matter, before he issues a warrant.

I would also urge the abolition of all these things such as the giving of security and the reporting of addresses etc. It is likely to condemn these people in the eyes of the public and there will be no urge for them to correct themselves once you point them out to society as permanently condemned people. After all, society must be uplifted by love and sympathy rather than by putting them up contemptuously before the public as condemned people. I would therefore urge that aspect also to be considered by Government.

I certainly welcome the Bill. It creates an amount of public opinion that anybody who tries to behave in an unsocial way will not get any sympathy but will be liable to be prosecuted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I see there is a desire on the part of a large number of Members yet to speak but we have very little time left. All support this Bill. I do not know whether that could be done only by an expression of opinion. I do presume that everybody is in favour of passing it as early as possible. It is to be concluded by 2 o'clock.

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): And the general discussion should be finished by 1 o'clock.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, and the general discussion should be finished by 1 o'clock.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy (Wandiwash): There are a few who oppose it. They may get at least 5 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If hon. Members agree, certainly, all can be accommodated.

Shrimati Sushama Sen (Bhagalpur South): Those who were on the Select Committee need not speak; others may be given the chance.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू (जिला सीतापुर व-जिला खेरी पश्चिम) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करती हूं । इस बिल को हम ने सेलेक्ट कमेटी (प्रवर समिति) में अच्छी तरह से देखा, और हर पहलू को देख कर हम ने इस को सुधारा और उसके बाद खुशी का दिन है कि कुछ अर्से के बाद यह इस हाउस के सामने आया है । मुझे यकीन है कि जब यह बिल यहां पर पास होगा तो उस से समाज का बहुत लाभ होगा । हांलाकि मुख्तलिफ दलीलें भी मैं ने सुनीं लेकिन मैं देखती हूं कि सब लोग इस बिल की सपोर्ट में हैं । यह बिल प्रास्टिट्यूशन (वेश्या वृति) को खत्म करने के लिए नहीं मालूम देता है, लेकिन इस बिल के जरिए से प्रास्टिट्यूशन और ट्रैफिक इन वीमेन एड गर्ल्स (स्त्रियों तथा लड़कियों का अनैतिक पण्य) के साधनों से उन को खत्म करने के लिये हम जरूर खड़े हुए हैं । मगर फिर भी नियत हमारी यही है कि हमारे देश से प्रास्टिट्यूशन खत्म हो जाए ।

असल बात तो यह है कि जब तक आप समाज में उलट फेर नहीं करेंगे तब तक प्रास्टिट्यूशन की जो खराबी है वह खत्म नहीं हो सकती है । जब तक स्त्री और पुरुष एक ही लेवेल पर नहीं होंगे, जब तक देश में स्त्री की इज्जत उतनी नहीं होगी जितनी पुरुष की होती है तब तक इस प्रास्टिट्शन का खत्म होना बहुत मुश्किल है । मैं जानती हूं कि जो यह ट्रैफिक इन वीमैन ऐंड गर्ल्स हम बन्द करने जा रहे हैं उस में मुमकिन है कि नतीजा यह हो कि प्रास्टिट्यूशन हमारे सामने न दिखलाई पड़े, और अन्दर चला जाए और एक नासूर की तरह से मुल्क में इधर उधर फूटता दिखाई पड़े । लेकिन इस के यह माने नहीं हैं कि हम इस के लिए कदम न उठाएं । हम ने तो विचार कर लिया है कि हम को इसको बिल्कुल खत्म करना है । बात यह है कि जब हम प्रास्टिट्यूशन को देखते हैं तो समझते हैं कि असल में यह अमीरों की बीमारी है, रईसों की बीमारी है, और यह आज से ही नहीं है बल्कि सदियों से, युगों से चली आ रही है । उस के बाद हमारे अन्दर यह ख्याल आता है कि हम किस तरह से इस को रोकें । रोकने का ढंग हमें एक ही दिखाई देता है, और वह यह है कि समाज को बदला जाए । इन छोटे छोटे रिफार्म्स (सुधारों) से काम नहीं चलेगा, आप को समाज में उलट फेर करना होगा, तभी आप इस बात को रोक सकते हैं । इस के सम्बन्ध में हमारे सामने यह बात आती है कि जो स्त्री सदा से पूजनीय कहलाती है, इस देश में जो आदरणीय कहलाती है, आज उस स्त्री की यह इज्जत है कि वह इस तरह से बरती जाती है । मैं तो सरकार से यह कहूंगी कि जब आज सरकार इस प्रथा को खत्म करने के लिए खड़ी है तो पहली चीज उस को यह करनी होगी कि वह देखे कि आखिर स्त्री क्यों इतनी गिरी । उस की सामाजिक और आर्थिक स्थिति सरकार को बदलनी चाहिए । सरकार को वर्क हाउसेज, और नर्सरी होम्स ऐसी चीजें चलानी चाहिएं ताकि औरतों को काम मिल सके । औरतों की इज्जत हो और वह आगे बढ़ें । यह तभी होगा जब उन की आर्थिक स्थिति को आप बदलेंगे । उन की दशा को बदलने के साथ साथ जो समाज सेवक या वर्कर्स देश में इस के लिए काम करेंगे उन की पूरी मदद आप को करनी होगी । जब तक इस काम के लिए सोशल वर्कर्स आगे नहीं बढ़ेंगे तब तक कोई काम नहीं हो सकता जब तक आप स्त्रियों के लिए वर्क हाउसेज नहीं बनाएंगे तब तक कोई फायदा नहीं हो सकता है ।

[श्रीमती उमा नेहरू]

मैं आप को बताऊं, मैं ने सुना था कि वृंदावन म स्त्रियां बेची जाती हैं। में खुद वृंदावन गई और वहां जा कर देखा एक जगह कि एक कैपिटलिस्ट (पूंजी पति) मारवाड़ी है। उस ने एक बड़ा भारी हाल बनवाया है। जब स्त्रियां विधवा हो जाती हैं। नौजवान विधवाओं को लाकर वह वहां छोड़ देते हैं और कहते हैं कि तुम अपना जन्म यहां बिताओ, भगवान का नाम लो और यहां रहो। उस मारवाड़ी कैपिटलिस्ट ने क्या किया है कि उन स्त्रियों को उस हाल में बिठाता है और वह स्त्रियां वहां पर "हरे राम" और "हरे कृष्ण" का भजन करती हैं। खरीदार वहां आते हैं, वह लोग उन को वहां पर पसन्द करते हैं और वहां पर वे बिकती हैं। मैंने खुद इस चीज़ की जांच की है और स्त्रियों से भी म ने बात की है। उसी के आधार पर मैं इस चीज़ को आपके सामने रख रही हूं। इस तरह की चीजें होती देखकर बहुत ज्यादा तकलीफ होती है। इस तरह का नज़ारा बहुत ही दुःखदायी नज़ारा होता है। वहां पर हमारे कैपिटलिस्ट भाई उनको खरीदते हैं और केपटलिस्ट भाई ही बेचते हैं। इस तरह से स्त्रियों की बेइज्जती होते देखकर सचमुच ही बहुत दुख होता है।

इस तरह की और भी कई मिसालें हैं और अगर मैं उनको बयान करने लगूं तो काफी समय इसी में व्यतीत हो जाएगा। मेरी अपनी स्पष्ट राय यह है कि हम को कानून को सख्ती से अमल में लाना चाहिए। मेरी राय यह भी हैं कि हमको किसी भी चीज़ पर परदा नहीं डालना चाहिए और जो बात हो उसे साफ साफ कहना चाहिए और जो असलियत है उसे समाज के सामने आना चाहिए। मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि यह जो प्रथा है यह प्राचीन काल में थी और आज भी हमारी आंखों के तले, हमारी नाक के तले यह चीज़ हो रही है। हम बड़े बड़े रईसों को, बड़े बड़े अफसरों को, बड़े बड़े लीडरों को इस कर्म को करते हुए देख रहे हैं। हम अपने एम० पी० (संसद सदस्य) भाइयों को भी इस काम को करते हुए देख रहे हैं। इसकी हमारे सामने मिसालें मौजूद हैं। लाज और शर्म के मारे हम इन सब चीजों को बयान नहीं कर सकते हैं। अगर हमारा बस चलता तो मैं आपको बताऊं कि हम खुद जाकर पुलिसमैन का काम करके उनको गिरफ्तार कर लेती।

यहां पर कल चीन की चर्चा हुई। मैं भी चीन गई थी। वहां पर जा कर मैं ने इस के बारे में अच्छी तरह से जांच पड़ताल की है। चीन में न मुझे कोई प्रास्टिट्यूट दिखाई दी और न ही कोई फकीर जिस को मैं ने हाथ फैलाये हुए देखा हो। वहां पर जिस वक्त सरकार ने यह सोचा कि प्रास्टिट्यूशन बन्द होना चाहिये, उसी वक्त उस ने वर्किंग होम्स बना दिये, नर्सरीज बना दीं और एजूकेशनल इंस्टीटयूशंज में और दूसरी जगहों पर इन को काम पर लगा दिया। जिन औरतों ने जरा सा भी ढ़ीठपन किया या जो पुरानी मुजरिम थीं उन को जेल भेज दिया। वहां पर उन को मारेलिटी की शिक्षा दी। इस तरह से वहां पर सरकार ने इस प्रथा को समाप्त कर दिया है। यह बात कहना कि वहां पर यह चीज ऊपर से खत्म हुई है और अन्दर कहीं पर है, यह मैं समझती हूं ठीक नहीं है। चीन के प्रधान मंत्री जो आज कल यहां हैं, उन्हीं ने भी मुझे यही बताया था चीन की औरतों से भी मेरी बात-चीत हुई है। उन्हों ने मुझे कहा अगर चीन की कोई भी औरत प्रास्टिट्यूशन करेगी, तो यह चीन के लिये एक जलालत की बात होगी। एक बात और है। वहां पर स्त्रियों की डिगनिटी (गरिमा) बहुत ज्यादा है। मैं ने जब उन से यह सवाल किया कि क्या कारण है कि चीन की औरतें इधर उधर बहुत कम दिखाई देती हैं तो उन्हों ने जवाब दिया कि चीन मे स्त्रियों का अपना एक स्थान है, उन की अपनी इज्जत है। वहां पर स्त्रियों को इस बात का ज्ञान हो गया है कि उन की अपनी इज्जत है।

उन्हों ने कहा कि हम अपने पतियों से अगर कहीं से कोई बुलावा आता है और उस में मिसिस को भी बुलाया जाता है तो नहीं जातीं हैं। हम मिस्टर और मिसिस के फेर में नहीं पड़ती हैं। अगर हम को कोई बुलाता है तो हमारी जो इंडिजुएवलिटी (व्यक्तित्व) है, उस पर ही जाती है, किसी की पत्नी हो कर हम नहीं जाती हैं। जब स्त्रियों में यह ज्ञान होगा, जब उन की इस तरह से इज्जत होनी शुरू हो जायेगी तो प्रास्टीट्यूशन आप से आप खत्म हो जायेगी।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : पति को भी मना कर दिया जायेगा कि वह पति हो कर न जाये।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : पति और पत्नी में कोई भेद नहीं है। पति का हाथ हमेशा ही ऊपर रहता है और पत्नी का नीचे।

अन्त में मैं सरकार से यह कहना चाहती हूं कि जितने भी सोशल बिल्स (सामाजिक विधेयक) हमारे सामने आये हैं और जो अभी तक पास नहीं हुए हैं, उन सब को वह इसी सैशन (सत्र) में पास करवा दें। मैं यह भी चाहती हूं कि सरकार पूरी ताकत के साथ इन कानूनों को अमल में लाये। सरकार जो पुलिस इन कानूनों को अमल में लाने के लिये मुकर्रर करे, चाहे वह स्त्री पुलिस हो या पुरुष पुलिस, उस पुलिस को आप को खास किस्म की शिक्षा देनी होगी, उस पुलिस को आप को खास तौर से इस काम के लिये ट्रेन्ड करना होगा। पुलिस की हम को इस काम के लिये जरूरत नहीं है जो चोरों और डाकुओं को पकड़ती है। मेरा ख्याल है सरकार इस ओर खास तौर से ध्यान देगी

मैं आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब को बधाई देती हूं कि उन के हाथों से यह बिल पास होगा। हम जो स्त्रियां हैं वे तो कोशिश करेंगी ही कि यह जो कलंक का टीका है वह देश के माथे पर न रहे लेकिन सरकार को भी इस को मिटाने के लिये पूरा पूरा प्रयत्न करना चाहिये।

Shri L. Jogeshwar Singh (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for having been given the opportunity to speak on this Bill. I only wish to speak with regard to certain parts of the Bill. The main question with regard to the suppression of immoral traffic is that we have to look to the social and economic background of these people. We see thousands of prostitutes in India and more particularly in cities, suburbs and towns and in the underdeveloped and backward areas. In the tribal areas, especially their social habits and customs are quite different from the rest of the people. We know how things are going on here. Hon. Members who are coming from other parts of India know about the conditions which are prevailing in their respective areas. So far as the conditions and customs in the tribal areas are concerned, I think that hon. Members know that there is free association among the people. They experience no difficulty at all to mix freely with each other. But the so-called civilized people from the plains and other parts of India go there for sight-seeing purposes, especially in the hill stations during the summer; they spend their time there and encourage prositution in this part of the country. Because of their poverty and social conditions as well as the peculiarity of their character the people fall a prey to these immoral practices. The Police authorities also lack vigilance and the administration is not very effective with the result that these nasty things are practised there more freely. I wish to lay stress on the fact that these crimes are being committed in the hill stations with a certain amount of freedom. The touts are very active in receiving visitors and they live on the earnings of these innocent women who serve as prositutes. I think that

[Shri L. Jogeshwar Singh]

the main purpose of this Bill will be thwarted, if we do not take into account the condition of the tribal areas, where these crimes are committed. As this question is purely economic, I would suggest that the matter should be taken as a 'national' problem. If we pass this Bill without at the same time providing the means to enable them to earn their livelihood, I think, the purpose of this Bill would be defeated.

The reason why I say so is this. I have travelled through a large part of the tribal area. I have also visited the city and town areas. I find that economic activity in the tribal areas is comparatively very poor. The economic conditions of the people living there are not improved. At the same time, certainly in the eastern and northern parts of the country the tribal population is very large and there are very beautiful ladies there.

Shri Achuthan (Crangannur): So he does not want people to go there?

Shri L. Jogeswar Singh: People go there and commit crimes and vice. Of course, I do admit that there are other people who go there and do good work for the uplift of the tribal people. I do not say that people are not doing good work there. They go there on social missions and with a view to implement economic programmes and so on. There is work done for the social uplift of the people in the tribal and hilly areas. Such people are welcome there.

But then there are others also. Just now I heard Shrimati Uma Nehru say that Marwari capitalists were also doing such things. This area is a paradise of such people. They earn money in the towns and go to the hills and spend it there. They entice the innocent girls. They encourage prostitution.

My submission is that this question has a major economic aspect. There are unemployed young men who go to these areas. There are touts there. They make their living on the earnings of the prostitutes. They encourage prostitutes. So whenever we try to tackle this problem, we must bear in mind this aspect also. These are the areas where tourists and businessmen go to spend holidays.

Then there is another point. I have seen, especially in the eastern part of the country, that unattached refugee camps have become the paradise of prostitutes. How has it taken place? Single persons, widows who have got no husbands, are kept there. Here is a source for carrying on prostitution.

So whenever you want to rid the country of the evil of prostitution, you should remember that moral rearmament is necessary. It is not only economic improvement that is necessary; moral rearmament is also necessary. Moral rearmament of all people, beginning from the high official down to the chowkidar, is necessary because they are all involved in this dangerous and shameful crime. Merely by passing this Bill we are not going to achieve anything. We should propagate among the innocent girls the evils and the harm that result from this profession. We should make them understand what injury and damage are caused to the health and morals of the girls. This should be brought home to our innocent people.

Then there is one point regarding protective homes. These homes will sometimes be very dangerous. They may become prostitute's houses run on a large scale. Why should we leave this matter to protective homes? This is a national problem. There are many prostitutes's colonies existing in the country. There is no prohibition. People may go there at daytime also. Then there is no registration throughout. Registration is there only in big cities and towns.

As I said, the mere passing of this Bill will not do. We must tackle the question of giving employment to these thousands of prostitutes. If we want to provide employment to these people, we should not leave them to the protective homes. The States

should take the problem in their hands. These protective homes should be run directly by the States and not left to any other agency. I would say that the States should take the entire responsibility for this upon themselves. That is the only solution to the problem.

Therefore, although I welcome this Bill, I would say that we should go into the root of the social and economic conditions and habits of the people. We have to undertake moral rearmament and we have to educate them. The States should take over all the protective homes. This is a national problem and should be tackled on the basis of a national plan. So I suggest that large sums should be provided under the Second Five Year Plan for this purpose. If you want the eradication of prostitution to be successful, you should provide large sums, as you are doing for irrigation, railways and so on, under the Second Five Year Plan for the purpose. Otherwise, the legislation will only remain in black and white; the scheme will not be successful.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: I shall be very brief in my observations.

The caption of the Bill is "The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Bill". But I do not find throughout this Bill any definition of 'immoral traffic'. Though we know the definition of 'woman' and 'girl', the term 'immoral traffic' has not been described.

It is with a view to satisfy the sentimental liking of many sections of the women of this country and also to satisfy the concience of the Government, that this Bill has been brought forward, in pursuance of a certain understanding with an international convention to which Government are a party since 1950.

With regard to the implications of this Bill and its enforceability, I am very doubtful whether we can achieve the object we have in view. The reason is this. I find so many provisions have been embodied in this Bill from other Acts, including the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code. The portions which deal with notification of address of previously convicted offenders, security for good behaviour from habitual offenders, search without warrant and jurisdiction of the Magistrate seem to be very much out of date. In the first place, it is not possible in these days to expect any person to notify the address of residence. As regards the provision for good behaviour, I think it is not going to work in the long run because of the prevalence of anti-social evils in the country.

I would again say that the drafting of the Bill is not well done. It is clumsily drafted. Unless the Bill is redrafted in a form which is readable and which could be implemented in the long run, it is better to withdraw the Bill and bring forward another.

It may be said that I am approving of certain provisions of the Bill but not the other provisions. But I oppose the Bill as it stands as I think that it is not going to achieve the desired results, considering the way in which it has been drafted. Basically I am opposed to it in the sense that certain provisions are wholesome but there are other provisions which are defective. It is surprising that the persons who deal with this, the women and the men who really carry on this profession, are not punished. They are let off, but the persons who happen to be intermediaries are alone sought to be punished. Here the intermediaries alone are checked up, not the real culprits. I would only say that all these provisions will not work in the socio-economic structure as it exists at present in the country. So, we have to see not only that the intermediaries are punished but also the persons who are the real culprits are punished. Otherwise, we cannot say whether this woman is innocent or that girl is innocent. Unless we punish both the intermediaries as well as the persons who are really involved in this, we cannot achieve the desired object, and the evil will still continue.

With these observations, I oppose the Bill.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): I just want to say one or two words about certain aspects of this Bill.

Many of the previous speakers have pointed out very correctly that we are attacking the problem in a very limited sense. We are trying to tighten up the law, but actually we are not approaching the problem basically.

12-52 hrs.

[SHRI RAGHAVACHARI *in the Chair*]

My friend, Shri Jogeshwar Singh has very correctly pointed out that one of the root causes of this evil, as far as the women or a large part of the women are concerned, is the fact that poverty is the driving force, and unless we are able to give them much larger scope of employment, the individuality of the woman cannot be free to do what she desires to maintain her dignity, and therefore she often becomes a pown for those who utilise her for their own profit. But at the same time, deeply conscious of the limitation of this Bill, I still rise to support it, because one aspect of the entire matter is to see that there is no evasion of the law. Even here, I feel that many in the Select Committee have been faced by a dilemma, that is, the difficulty in proving the act of trafficking and the evasion of those who are most ingenious to do so. In the course of our practical work we have found how very very easy it is for these people to get away by evading the law and by hiding behind interpretations of the law. High Courts have again and again let off offenders whom everybody in society knows as offenders, but it has not been possible for anybody to prove that they have been habitual offenders. On account of these technical and legal points, they have been allowed to evade the law.

On the other hand, many previous speakers have pointed out the difficulties which should be tackled to prevent these clauses being made liable to abuse. There is no doubt about it. Many friends have pointed out that allowing the police to enter and search a place without warrant and asking the woman to appear before the magistrate summarily, may be liable to be abused. That is why I wish to point out while I entirely agree with the basic points, which are the tackling of poverty and opening up of employment and homes for women, educating people in high moral standards—that beyond these basic points, there is the great difficulty which the people, who have been working for rescuing women, have been faced with that is the need for tightening the law to bring to book the evaders of the law. We should tighten up the machinery through which we desire to check, even in a limited way, trafficking in women. That machinery has been the police. The police again and again have been in collusion and even in the Report of the Advisory Committee on Social and Moral Hygiene it has been pointed out, and we have several cases to our knowledge that women have very often had to buy their peace with the police officers by offering them their bodies. This is a corruption that is known to all. That is why it is absolutely essential that there must be a complete re-orientation and building of special police squad for this work, who should be above corruption, and who should have the proper attitude towards these women. The proper attitude has been expressed from many corners of this House, that is, a prostitute is a person who is not to be condemned for ever but a person who should be looked upon with sympathy and whom we have to help forward to regain a healthy life. It must be appreciated that even this limited legal penal measure which we are passing now will depend entirely on the training of the police, the special police, to do this work. It is with a spirit of persuasion and of trying to bring those women back to society that the police have to approach them. It is a difficult task, but unless we are able to do this, we will not be able to achieve even the

limited results out of the Bill which we are trying to pass.

Secondly, we have proposed, during the discussion in the Select Committee,—I want the House to pay attention to it—the association of women in the work at every stage, and more especially in the process of rescuing. This work will need women police who should be associated with the special police squad. In our State, for example, we have got special women police; but what are they used for? They become foolish in the eyes of the public because they are used to arrest women political workers, to arrest us. Send other people to arrest us. Why do you not train these women for this particular type of work? That is what we want. There may be States who will not be able to come forward in this matter immediately as there are all sorts of social restrictions, but it is the job of the other States and the Central Government to help in this matter, to train up the police force. This is one of the most important aspects of this limited measure.

The other point which I want to mention and which I think is very important is the question of protective homes. How these protective homes will finally turn out to be will depend upon the State Governments. As we have seen, large and sweeping powers have been left under the rule-making power of the State Government. How these homes will turn out to be ultimately we do not know. I hope that the main thing about these homes, which we have tried to emphasise and have been lucky to be able to incorporate in the body of the Bill itself, is that they will be really homes where women will be the main people who will be managing the internal affairs of these institutions. We know it, and if you read the Report of the Advisory Committee on Social and Moral Hygine, you will find, for example, flagrant abuse of the way in which these Ashrams are managed. It says:

> "The managing committee is invariably a men's committee with one or two women on the list, who according to the man-superintendent played no active part—in fact, in the vast majority of cases never attanded a meeting. The man-superintendent invariably lives on the premises, either with his family or without and moves about the quarters of the women with no respect for their privacy. Again and again on visiting these institutions, the inmates were lined up before the Committee, and in the presence of all, the manager would begin to relate the history of each girl—A is not married, but is in the fifth month of pregnancy, B was seduced by a Muslim and it was difficult to effect her rescue,...."

Then they go on to show how these men have been abusing their positions in these ashrams. I entirely agree with what Shri Jogeshwar Singh said in this respect. Unless this is checked, these protective homes themselves might become again sources of evil. One point where I do not agree with Shri Jogeshwar Singh is when he says that these protective homes should not actually have the right of setting up centres for work and vocational training. I do not think that is correct. I think the State Governments should give every possible help to these institutions so that the most important part of the work of these institutions will be economic rehabilitation of these women. Women do not have any profession in our country; they hardly know how to read and write. Therefore, if we really want to make the women equal citizens with us and bring them honourably back again to society, the main thing which we must do is to give them that training and it should be done in these institutions under the help and guidance of these women social workers, who should be in charge of these particular institutions.

13 hrs.

They should be specially trained to have a very sympathetic outlook

[Shrimati Renu Chakravartty]

towards those who have been put under them. Unless we have an adequate number of protective homes throughout India, I am afraid what will happen is that, as was pointed out very rightly by many hon. Members, we shall be passing a law which will only drive underground an evil which has been there from time immemorial. It is no doubt a social evil which can be eradicated, provided we approach it in the proper spirit, even in the limited sense it has been conceived in the Bill. The rescue work should be done by a special squad with the help of women who have been specially trained in it, incorruptible and with a proper psychological and moral attitude towards rescuing them and bringing them back to society; in these homes these women should be morally rehabilitated and made economically self-supporting to enable them to stand up as equal citizens of a free India.

श्रीमती कमलेन्दुमति शाह (जिला गढ़वाल पश्चिम व जिला टिहरी गढ़वाल, व जिला बिजनौर उत्तर) : सभापति महोदय, यह विधेयक जो कल से इस सदन के सामने विचारार्थ है स्वागत योग्य है और अब शीघ्र ही इस पर बार बार विचार प्रारम्भ हो कर यह पास हो जायेगा । मेरा तो यह विचार है कि इस प्रकार का विधान आज से बहुत समय पहले पास हो जाना चाहिये था, खैर जितनी देर हो गई वह तो हो गई इसे हम को जल्द से जल्द पास कर देना चाहिये । लेकिन हम इस को पास करते समय इस बात का भी ध्यान रखना है कि खाली इस कानून को पास कर देने भर से हमारा उद्देश्य सिद्ध होने वाला नहीं है और इस का विशेष लाभ स्त्रियों को कैसे होने वाला है ।

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं कुछ सुझाव सरकार के सामने रखना चाहती हूं और मेरा अनुरोध है कि सरकार उन पर विचार कर के उन पर अमल करने का प्रात्न करे । यह कुप्रथा और कलंक हमारे देश और समाज से तभी मिट सकता है जब केन्द्रीय सरकार प्रान्तीय सरकारों को इस काम में हर प्रकार से आर्थिक तथा अन्य प्रकार की सहायता दे और इस सम्बन्ध में प्रान्तीय सरकारों के ऊपर केन्द्रीय सरकार का पूरा नियंत्रण रहना चाहिये वरना यह कुप्रथा मिटनी मुश्किल है ।

यहां पर जो यह विचार प्रकट किया गया है कि यह कुप्रथा हमारे वहां आदिकाल से चलती आई है मैं ऐसा नहीं मानती । आदि काल में भगवान ने जो सृष्टि की रचना को और प्राणीमात्र की रचना की तो वह सब के भले के उद्देश्य को ले कर ही की थी और कोई कुत्सित भावनायें मानव में नहीं थी लेकिन आगे चल कर मानव में बुरे भावों का उदय हुआ और अपने स्वार्थवश उस ने बुरी बुरी किस्म की प्रथाओं को जन्म दिया है जिस के कारण आज हमारी ऐसी शोचनीय अवस्था हो रही है । इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा एक सुझाव यह है कि सरकार पहले गुप्त रूप से जितने भी देश में इस प्रकार के अनैतिक अड्डे हैं जहां कि इस तरह का शर्मनाक व्यापार चलता है उन का पता लगाये और व्यभिचार के स्थानों का पता लगाने के बाद एक दम से एक वक्त में उन सब स्थानों पर छापा मारे और उन को खत्म कर दे । मैं समझती हूं कि यह तरीका अपनाने से सरकार को इस काम में अधिक सफलता मिलेगी और इस अनैतिक काम को रोकना भी ज्यादा आसान होगा।

मैं चाहती हूं कि इस जुर्म के अपराधियों को अधिक से अधिक दंड दिया जाय, स्त्रियों को नहीं बल्कि मेरा अभिप्राय: उन लोगों से है जो स्त्रियों से इस प्रकार का पेशा करवाते हैं या अड्डे वगैरह चलाते हैं और वहां फांस फांस कर स्त्रियों को लाकर रखते हैं और उन्हें इस नीच कर्म के लिये बाध्य करते हैं ।

मुझे यह कहते हुए बड़ा अफसोस होता है कि कहां तो हम इस कुप्रथा को खत्म करना

चाहते हैं और दूसरी तरफ सरकार उन वेश्यालयों से इनकमटैक्स (आयकर) ले रही है जिस से बजाय हतोत्साहित होने के वे लोग इस काम को करने के लिये उत्साहित होते हैं। इस पाप की कमाई का अंश सरकारी कोष में नहीं जाना चाहिये। और सरकार को ऐसा नहीं करना चाहिये, यह बहुत गलत बात है और ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये।

एक मेरा निवेदन यह भी है कि इस काम को करने के लिये और खोज बीन करने के लिये पुलिस अफसरों में पुलिस में और मजिस्ट्रेट के स्थान में महिलायें होनी चाहियें और महिलाओं के जिम्मे इस काम को देना चाहिये और इस काम के वास्ते समस्त विभाग ही स्त्रियों का हो जाना चाहिये क्योंकि स्त्रियों इस काम को पुरुषों की अपेक्षा अधिक अच्छी तरह कर सकती हैं और स्त्रियों के जिम्मे यह काम रहने से बहुत कम करप्शन (भ्रष्टाचार) की सम्भावना रहती है। मैं चाहूंगी कि इस खोजबीन का काम करने के लिये पुलिस अफसर पुलिसमैन और मजिस्ट्रेटस् ऊपर से नीचे तक सब महिलायें रक्खी जायें। मैं इस बात से तो इंकार नहीं करती कि स्त्रियों के द्वारा इस काम में करप्शन की संभावना बिल्कुल ही नहीं रहेगी क्योंकि हो सकता है कि कुछ स्त्रियां भी ऐसी हों जो कन्याओं को लाने व बेचने आदि का काम करती हों लेकिन तो भी स्त्रियों के द्वारा यह काम कराने से करप्शन की बहुत कम सम्भावना रहती है। पुरुष केवल चौकीदार और पहरे का काम करने के लिये भर्ती किये जायें। मेरा विश्वास है कि अगर इस विभाग में सारी स्त्रियां रक्खी जायें तो इस कुरीति को रोकने में काफी कामयाबी मिल सकती है।

इस के अतिरिक्त मेरा निवेदन है कि जहां आज हमारे द्वारा हरिजन भाइयों को ऊपर उठाने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है और उन को सवर्ण हिन्दू गले लगाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और यह बड़े हर्ष का विषय है कि काफी मात्रा में हम उस में सफल भी हुए हैं, उसी तरह क्यों न हम इन वेश्यालयों से अपनी बहनों का उद्धार कर के, उन को हरिजनों के समान अपने बराबर स्थान देने का प्रयत्न करें। जरूरत आज इस बात की है कि हम अपनी उन अभागी वेश्या बहिनों के दिल में यह विश्वास पैदा करें कि हम उन्हें अछूत और हीन नहीं समझते और वे भी हमारी तरह मनुष्य हैं और हमारी तरह संसार में सिर उठा कर रिस्पैक्टेबली अपना जीवन व्यतीत कर सकती हैं। मैं समझती हूं कि अगर हम ऐसा कर सके और अपनी उन अभागी बहिनों को अपने बराबर बिठा सके तो हम बहुत बड़ी हद तक अपने इस उद्देश्य के प्रयत्न में सफल हो सकेंगे और अपने देश और समाज के ऊपर जो यह कलंक है उस को मिटा सकने में समर्थ हो सकेंगे और अपने देश से इन वेश्यालयों को खत्म कर सकेंगे।

इस के अतिरिक्त वेश्याओं के जो बालक होते हैं उन को भी हमें समाज में मिलाना है क्योंकि अगर वेश्याओं के बालक बालिकायें समाज में नहीं मिलाये जायेंगे तो उन की बालिकायें आगे चल कर वेश्यायें बनेंगी और उन के लड़के पिम्प बन कर इस तरह के अनैतिक कामों में शरीक होंगे और पापपूर्ण जीवन व्यतीत करेंगे। हमें उन वेश्याओं और उन के बालक बालिकाओं को यह विश्वास दिलाना है कि वह कोई दूसरे नहीं हैं बल्कि हमारी तरह इंसान हैं, और उन का उद्धार करने के लिये हम अग्रसर हैं ताकि वह अच्छा जीवन व्यतीत कर सकें, हमें उन की हर तरह से सहायता करनी चाहिये।

एक हमारे भाई ने हमें बतलाया कि हमारे देश में यह प्रथा इसलिये मौजूद है क्योंकि हमारे देश में निर्धनता है और चूंकि यहां के लोगों के पास खाने पीने को कुछ नहीं है इसलिये यह कुप्रथा हमारे देश में फैली हुई है। मैं उन के इस विचार से सहमत नहीं हूं क्योंकि यह जरूरी नहीं है कि अगर कोई व्यक्ति निर्धन है तो वह ऐसे कुकृत्य की ओर अग्रसर होगा। मेरे विचार में यह हमारी मानसिक कमजोरी है और

[श्रीमती कमलेन्दुमति शाह]

पाश्चात्य सभ्यता के कुप्रभाव के कारण हमारे संस्कार गलत होते जा रहे हैं इसी के कारण हमारा इस तरह पतन हो रहा है । मुझे यह कहते हुए बड़ा अफसोस होता है कि आज हमारे देश की माताओं को क्लबों और दूसरी इसी तरह की ऐक्टिविटीज (कार्यों) से फुर्सत ही नहीं मिलती कि वे अपने बच्चों की देखभाल कर सकें और उन का चरित्र अच्छा बना सकें और उन में संस्कार डालें कि वे गलत राह पर जाने से रुक सकें । आज मातायें अपने बच्चों को सवेरे से दाइयों के जिम्मे कर के ब्रिज, ताश इत्यादि खेलने निकल जाती हैं जिस का कि परिणाम यह होता है कि बच्चों के जैसे संस्कार बनने चाहियें वैसे नहीं बन पाते और वे गलत रास्तों पर सहज में ही बहक जाते हैं । इस वास्ते मैं समझती हूं कि हम हर एक देशवासी का और माताओं का पहला यह कर्तव्य है कि हम अपने बच्चों को कम से कम जब तक कि वे ६,७ वर्ष के न हो जायें और स्कूलों में जाने लायक न हो जायें तब तक दाइयों के जिम्मे उन को न छोड़ें और हम खुद अपना स्वार्थ त्याग कर उन की खबरगीरी रक्खें । मैं आशा करती हूं कि हमारी मातायें मेरे इस अनुरोध पर अवश्य ध्यान देंगी ।

इस के अलावा मुझे यह कहना है कि हमारे जो महिला आश्रम चलते हैं उन पर भी हमें निगरानी रखनी है और यह देखना है कि वे ठीक ढंग से चल रहे हैं या नहीं और वहां पर कोई गलत काम तो नहीं हो रहा है । मैं अपने ही प्रदेश के बारे में जानती हूं कि वहां कुछ ऐसे आश्रम हैं जो कि छिपे तौर पर वेश्यालय बने हुए हैं और हमें देखना है कि वहां पर यह पाप कर्म न हो और मैं समझती हूं कि महिलाओं के निरीक्षण के लिये महिला अफसर होनी चाहिये जिस से वे उन का अच्छी तरह निरीक्षण कर सकें और ऐसे आश्रमों में किसी भी समय वे जा सकें और यह देख कर अपने मन में यह निश्चय कर सकें कि वे आश्रम ठीक प्रकार से चल रहे हैं । महिला अफसर को आश्रम के निरीक्षण का पूर्ण अधिकार होना चाहिये । इस के अतिरिक्त मैं समझती हूं कि हमारी स्त्रियां जो इस पापपूर्ण कर्म की ओर प्रवृत्त होती हैं बहुत बड़ी हद तक उस की जिम्मेदारी हमारे पुरुष समाज पर है और अगर वे इस बात के लिये दृढ़ निश्चय कर लें कि हमें जैसे भी हो इस बुराई को अपने देश और समाज से दूर करना है तो हमारे भाई लोग बहिनों से पहले इस गंदे और घृणित काम को रोक सकने में कामयाब हो सकते हैं । भारतवर्ष से वेश्यालयों को बन्द कराने के लिये हम भाई बहिनों की समान जिम्मेदारी है और हम को दृढ़ निश्चय के साथ इस कलंक को अपने दामन से दूर करने के लिये जुट जाना चाहिये । जिसमें भाइयों को विशेष प्रयत्न करना है । दूसरे देशों में भी वेश्यालयों को बन्द करने के प्रयत्न हो रहे हैं और कहीं कहीं पर बहुत कुछ कामयाबी भी मिली है तब हम ही इस शुभ कार्य में किसी से पीछे क्यों रहें ।

मैं आप को बतलाऊं कि आज से दस साल पहले मेरे जिले और प्रदेश में वेश्याओं और बालिकाओं का निर्यात किस तरह से बंद था और आज किस तरह से वह निर्यात बढ़ रहा है उस का कारण यह है कि उस समय एक कानून था जिस से कि निर्यात २ प्रतिशत भी नहीं हो पाता था लेकिन आज उस कानून के लागू न किये जाने से वह निर्यात बढ़ कर ७० प्रतिशत हो गया है । कन्याओं के निर्यात किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में सन् १९२८ में मेरे जिले में यह कानून लागू किया गया था कि जो लड़कियां और औरतें ग्राम से बाहर जाती हैं उनको बाहर जाने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है । यानी पांच छः वर्ष की उम्र से ले कर पचास वर्ष की उम्र तक की कोई स्त्री एक जिले से दूसरे जिले में न जाये क्योंकि खेती वगैरह का काम बहुत काफी है उन्हें बाहर जाने

की आवश्यकता ही नहीं पड़ती । और अगर बाहर जायें भी तो किसी अधिकारी को बता कर जायें और उसे यह विश्वास दिला कर जायें कि किस कारण से बाहर जा रही हैं वे यह विश्वास दिला कर ही बाहर जा सकती थी । उन्हें यह भी बताना होता था कि कितने महीने बाहर रहेगी और वापस कब लौटेगी । इस बात का समय निर्धारित कर दिया जाता था कि वह स्त्री और बच्ची बाहर कितने दिन रहेगी । इस प्रकार से अगर स्त्रियों के निर्यात के स्थानों पर अब भी सीमा बांध दी जायें तो बहुत काम चल सकता है । ऐसे कई इलाके हैं जिन में अगर यह प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया जाये तो मेरा विश्वास है कि इस प्रकार का अवैध निर्यात बहुत कम हो जायेगा । मैं आशा करती हूं कि सरकार यह प्रतिबन्ध लगायेगी और राज्य सरकारों को भी आदेश देगी कि ऐसा प्रतिबन्ध लगाना बहुत आवश्यक है क्योंकि यह मेरे जिले की ही बात है जहां से कन्याओं को बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में लाया जाता है, अतः इस प्रकार के प्रतिबन्ध के कारण वहां लड़कियां और औरतों का अवैध निर्यात बहुत ही कम होता था ।

इतना कह कर मैं सरकार से यह कहना चाहती हूं कि स्त्री की सब से बड़ी स्वतन्त्रता यही है कि जो कि पुरुष स्त्री का सन्मान करता है, उसको आदर व प्रेम से रखता है । यह हमारे लिये सब से बड़ी स्वतन्त्रता है और पति तथा कुटुम्बी जनों द्वारा सन्मान को पा कर स्त्रियों को सन्तोष होता है। अतीत काल से पुरुष वर्ग हमारा आदर करता आया है, अभी भी स्त्री के लिये सब से बड़ी स्वतन्त्रता यही है कि पुरुष उस का आदर करे, पुरुषों की आंखों में स्त्री की इज्जत होना स्त्री के लिये सब से बड़ी स्वतन्त्रता व सन्तोष की बात है ।

Mr. Chairman: I have got two more Members who want to participate in the debate. The Bill has to close at 14.00 hours and how long will the Minister take?

Shri Datar: I shall take only five minutes.

Mr. Chairman: May I request those friends who want to participate to speak on the clauses. There are a number of clauses and whatever submission they want to make, may be made on the clauses. Unless they wish that they must speak now, they may speak on clauses and if they want to speak now, they cannot have more than five minutes each.

Shri Jangde: (Bilaspur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Some new suggestions have to be made which would not be covered in the clause-by-clause consideration.

Shri Achuthan: Hon. Members who have not given slips may also be called.

Mr. Chairman: Yes. But there is no time.

Shri M. L. Agrawal (Pilibhit Distt. *cum* Bareilly Distt-East): Clauses too may take some time.

Mr. Chairman: He will finish in five minutes. Shri Jangde.

श्री जांगड़े : सभापति महोदय, हमारे लिये यह बड़े सौभाग्य की बात है कि यह विधयक इस सदन में पारित होने के लिये आ रहा है। संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के संकल्पों के अनु ५ यह विधेयक बन रहा है । हमारे देश में और हमारे देश की प्राचीन संस्कृति में राजभवनों और पूंजीपतियों के घरों में उन के आवासों में यह धंधा चलता था । परन्तु उसका नाम वेश्यावृत्ति नहीं था । नर्तनकृत्य या दूसरे नामों से वह पुकारा जाता था । आज वही रवैया वही पद्धति अनैतिक भ्रष्टाचार या वेश्यावृत्ति जर्जर छप्परों सघन शहरों की गन्दी बस्तियों में और अनाश्रित स्थानों में आ टपकी है और अक्सर यह देखने में आता है

[श्री जांगड़े]

कि जो बड़े बड़े पूंजीपति हैं वह हम गरीबों की विवशता का नाजायज फायदा उठाते ह । खैर मैं विस्तृत रूप में न जा कर कुछ स्पष्ट बात यहां रखना चाहता हूं ।

इस विधेयक को पढ़ने के बाद मुझे कुछ खामियां (कमियां) मालूम हुई हैं। एक खामी यह मालूम होती है कि चलते फिरते बाजारों, मेलों या तीर्थ स्थानों में ऐसे तम्बू या शिविर लगाये जाते हैं जहां पर कि वेश्यावृत्ति का धंधा चलता है और जिन मकसदों (उद्देश्य) को ले कर बाजार मेले या तीर्थ स्थान रखे जाते हैं उन का दुरुपयोग होता है । इसलिये जो परिभाषा इस में ब्राथेल हाउस (चकलों) की दी हुई है उस में टेंट्स (शिविर) मोबाइल टेंट्स (चलते फिरते शिविर) के शब्द जोड़े जाएं तो मतलब पूरा हो सकता है ।

क्लाज ७ और ८ मे मैंने देखा कि जो औरतें इस कार्य को करती हैं उन के दंड की जो प्रक्रिया है वह बहुत ही कम है । कहा गया है कि उन्हें या तो सजा दी जा सकती है या जुर्माना किया जा सकता है । यह जो शब्द रक्खे गए हैं वह बहुत स्पष्ट नहीं है कि उस औरत को सजा दी ही जाएगी । हम ने मुख्य प्राविधान में देखा, उस में लिखा है : "नाट लेस देन वन इअर" (एक वर्ष से कम नहीं) लेकिन अगर आप क्लाज ७ और ८ को देखें तो वहां पर पाएंगे कि किसी औरत को जो कि इस धंधे को करती है या जो किसी कोठे से या खिड़की से इशारों के द्वारा वश्यावृत्ति को उकसाती है, दंड की जो प्रक्रिया है वह बहुत कम है । वहां पर कोई कम्पल्शन नहीं है, अनिवार्य दंड नहीं है । मैं चाहता हूं कि भले ही ऐसी औरत को एक या दो महीने का ही दंड दिया जाये, लेकिन आर्थिक दंड के बजाय सजा दी जाय। न्यूनतम अवधि उस औरत के लिए भी यहां पर निर्धारित की जाये । तभी जा कर यह विधेयक सफल हो सकता है । अभी तक मने सुना, मेरी बहनें माफ करेंगी कि मैं ऐसे शब्द कहता हूं, कि औरतों को विवश हो कर वेश्यावृत्ति करनी पड़ती है, लेकिन अभी भी कई स्थान ऐसे हैं जहां पर कि पुरुष जिन्दा है, पति जिन्दा है, पति विवश है और हजारों की संख्या में औरतें पुरुष के रहते हुए एक स्त्री के रूप में रहते हुए भी वैश्यावृत्ति का धंधा चलाती हैं । पति जिन्दा है, फिर भी तीन चार साल के भीतर उसके तीन बच्चे पदा हो जाते हैं और उस को पता नहीं उस का पिता कौन है । अगर हम इस कानून द्वारा वैश्यावृत्ति को बन्द करना चाहते हैं तो इस तरफ से भी बन्द करें ।

मैंने माना कि पुरुष औरतों पर बहुत जुल्म और अत्याचार करते हैं । पर सदा यह चीज एक तरफा ही नहीं होती है। कहीं कहीं अपवाद भी होता है । उसका इस विधेयक में समावेश होना चाहिए । मैं बता सकता हूं कि कई एसे एसे शहर हैं जैसे कलकत्ता और बम्बई, जहां पर हजारों औरत जाती हैं और पति की इच्छा के विरुद्ध माता पिता की इच्छा के विरुद्ध जाती हैं, किसी का कहना नहीं मानती हैं समाज का सुधार करने के लिए इस की ओर भी ध्यान देना आवश्यक है ।

मैं ने पूरा अनुभव किया है कि वेश्यावृत्ति का एक कारण यह भी है कि समाज में जो विवाह विच्छेद का बन्धन है वह बहुत ढीला है। उस का नाजायज फायदा उठा कर वेश्यावृत्ति की जाती है । मैं जानता हूं कि विवाह विच्छेद का बन्धन जितना ढीला होगा उसका उतना ही नाजायज फायदा लोग उठा सकते हैं और वेश्यावृत्ति का यह भी एक प्रधान कारण है । आप लोग यकीन (विश्वास) करें या न करें, मैं ने अपनी आंखों से देखा है और किसी भी सदस्य को कंविस (विश्वास) करा सकता हूं कि विवाह विच्छेद का जो ढीला बन्धन है वह वश्यावृत्ति का एक कारण है और इसके लिए हमारे मंत्री महोदय को ध्यान देना होगा। जब हिन्दू मैरेज एड डाइवार्स बिल पर बहस चल रही थी उस समय भी मैंने इस के बारे में

कहा था परन्तु उस समय उसका समावेश नहीं हो सकता था। इस लिए जब यह विधेयक पारित हो उस समय इस चीज पर भी हमारे मंत्री महोदय ध्यान दें ।

मैं यह भी देखता हूं कि बड़े बड़े शहरों में जो सरमायेदार कारखानेदार या मालगोदाम वाले और पूंजीपति हैं वह हमारी माताओं और बहनों को सिर्फ आधी रात के समय, ९ बजे से १२ बजे रात तक या १२ बजे रात से ४ बजे सवेरे तक ही काम पर लगाते हैं। दुनियां में मैं ने कहीं नहीं देखा कि आधी रात के समय या १२ बजे रात से ३ बजे सवेरे तक कहीं कोई औरत काम पर बड़े कारखानों में, कोयला खदानों में या दूसरी जगहों में रक्खी जाती हों। यहां क्या होता है कि बताया यह जाता है कि औरत कारखाने में काम करती है, पर असलियत यह होती है कि पूंजीपति अवसर निकाल कर आधी रात के समय हमारी गरीब माताओं और बहनों को काम देने के बहाने से अपनी कामाग्नि की पूर्ति करते हैं और इस प्रकार से वेश्यावृत्ति चलाते हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि जब यह विधेयक बने तो इस में इस चीज का भी समावेश हो कि कोई भी औरत कहीं जा कर आधी रात के बाद या १२ बजे रात से ले कर ६ बजे सवेरे तक काम न करे। कहीं पर भी उस को इस तरह काम करने की अनमति न दी जाये। इस को करने के बाद ही यह विधेयक ठीक तरह से पारित हो सकता है ।

इस समय मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं। वैसे क्लाज (खण्ड) तो बहुत से हैं जिन में खामियां (कमियां) हैं, लेकिन समय कम होने के कारण मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता।

अन्त में मैं एक बात कह कर समाप्त करता हूं। यह कहा जाता है कि गरीबी के कारण ही यह वेश्यावृत्ति फैलती है। लेकिन फिल्म उद्योग में जो चलचित्रों के निर्माता हैं, उन के आवास गृहों में क्या देखते हैं। वहां से इस तरह की चीज प्रत्यक्ष रूप से न सही लेकिन परोक्ष रूप में हमारे समाने आ जाती है। जो फिल्मों का निर्माण होता है उन में भी कई ऐसी चीजें पाई जाती हैं, जिन से इस वृत्ति को प्रोत्साहन मिलता है। कई चलचित्र तो इतने अश्लील होते हैं, कि उन की अश्लीलता के कारण भी यह वेश्यावत्ति बढ़ती है। सैंसर बोर्ड के जरिये अगर सरकार इस चीज को रोकने का भी प्रयत्न करे तो हमारा जो सामाजिक स्तर है वह ऊंचा हो सकता है ।

जो उपाय मैं ने बतलाये यदि इन को काम में लाया जाये और इन की ओर ध्यान दिया जाय तो हमारा जो नैतिक स्तर है, वह संसार के सभी देशों से ऊंचा हो सकता है।

श्रीमती पिनीमाता (बिलासपुर-दुर्ग रायपुर-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : सभापति महोदय, महिला अनैतिक बिल जो कई वर्षों तक प्रतीक्षा करने के बाद आज इस सदन में प्रस्तुत हुआ है, उस के लिये मैं श्रीमती राजमाता को और माननीय गृहमंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देती हूं ।

इस बिल को यहां पेश हुए देख कर मुझे खुशी हुई है। परन्तु इस के साथ ही साथ मुझे इस चीज को देख कर दुःख भी हुआ है कि हमारी सरकार इस चीज को हमेशा के लिये खत्म नहीं कर रही है। मैं समझती हूं जितनी जल्दी इस चीजको खत्म कर दिया जाता उतना अच्छा होता। इस बिल में कहा गया है कि सार्वजनिक स्थान से २०० गज के अन्दर कोई वैश्यालय नहीं होना चाहिये। इस का क्या मैं यह अर्थ लगाऊं कि २०१ गज की दूरी पर वैश्यालय खोला जा सकता है।

दूसरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहती हूं वह लाइसेंस (अनुज्ञप्ति) के बारे में है। मैं चाहती

[श्रीमती मिनीमाता]

हूं कि किसी भी व्यक्तिगत संस्था को हमारी सरकार लाइसेंस देने की कोशिश न करे। पहले पहल कई स्थानों पर विधवा आश्रम खोले गये थे परन्तु हर एक की कठिनाइयां उपस्थित हो जाने के कारण आज उन में से एक भी आश्रम दिखाई नहीं दे रहा है। इस वास्ते मेरी मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना है कि व्यक्तिगत लाइसेंस न दे कर छोटे से छोटे बचावगृह को भी सरकार अपनी देख रेख में रखे और प्रत्येक बचावगृह में उद्योगधंधे चाहे वे छोटे छोटे ही हों, चाल करे। अगर आप ने वहां उद्योग धंधे नहीं चलाये तो वे बचावगृह स्वावलम्बी नहीं बन सकेंगे। अगर ये बचावगृह स्वावलम्बी बन जायेंगे तो वहां पर रहने वालों का जो चरित्र है वह ठीक रह सकेगा और वे अपनी आत्मशक्ति को सबल बना सकेंगे। इस से उन के दिल में अनैतिक कार्यों के प्रति घृणा की भावना पैदा होगी और उन का चरित्र ऊंचा उठेगा।

मुख्य बात तो यह है कि समाज के अत्याचारों को और गरीबी और बेरोजगारी को जो कि गांवों में फैली हुई है उसे आप खत्म करें। इस चीज को देख कर बहुत ही दुःख होता है। हम सभी लोग तथा सरकार भी गांव की उन्नति के लिये नारा लगाते हैं परन्तु दिनों दिन गांवों में बेरोजगारी बढ़ती ही चली जा रही है। मैं कुछ पहले देखती थी कि गांव की लंगड़ी अंधी और निःसहाय महिलायें भी चक्की चला कर और धान कूट कर अपना अच्छी तरह से गुजर बसर कर लेती थीं। परन्तु अब तो छोटे से छोटे गांव में भी छोटी छोटी मशीनों की आवाज धक धक करती है और गांव वालों को काम से वंचित कर धक्का मार कर बड़े बड़े शहरों में भेज रही है। शहर में जा कर जो बहनें भगवान से जरा डरती हैं वे तो कठिन परिश्रम कर के कमा कर खा लेती हैं परन्तु जो बहन कठिन परिश्रम नहीं कर सकतीं हैं वे लाचारी की हालत में अनैतिक कार्यों में जुट जाती है। उन को इस काम को लाचारी में ही करने को बाध्य होना पड़ता है। जब वे इस काम को करने लग जाती हैं तो समाज उन को घृणा की दृष्टि से देखता है और मजे की बात तो यह है कि उसी समाज के प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्ति वैश्यागामी होते हैं और समाज जानते हुए भी उन्हें पैसे के बल पर ऊंचे ऊंचे स्थानों पर उन को नियुक्त कर लेता है। इस बिल में आप ने वैश्याओं के लिये जिस जुर्म को करने के लिये सजा की व्यवस्था की है, वही सजा ऐसे अनैतिक कार्य करने वाले पुरुषों के लिये भी होनी चाहिये। अब तक ऐसा नहीं किया गया है। अगर आप कानून बना दें और साथ ही कानून की अवहेलना होने दें तो इस से क्या लाभ होगा? अगर आप ने सब के लिये एक सी सजा न रखी तो इस में जातिवाद और साम्प्रदायवाद की बात भी उठ खड़ी हो सकती है। मैं आप को यह भी बतलाना चाहती हूं कि आप ने अस्पृश्यता निवारक कानून जो बनाया है, उस के बारे में आज गावों में कहा जा रहा है कि हम इस को मुर्दा बना कर ही दम लेंगे। मैं ने उन लोगों से कहा कि भाई कुछ देर तो इंतजार करो, अगर आपने अभी से इस तरह करना शुरु कर दिया तो कैसे काम चलेगा। लेकिन कोई सुनता ही नहीं है। मैं आप को यह भी बतलाना चाहती हूं कि छत्तीसगढ़ में इस कानून के होने की वजह से सात मर्डर केसिस (हत्या के मामले) हो चुके हैं। तो आप कानून तो बना देते हैं लेकिन उस पर अमल अच्छी तरह से नहीं होता है। आज कानूनों की कोई इज्जत नहीं करता है, कोई कद्र नहीं करता है। एक गांव है जिस का नाम जुरला है। वहां पर हर एक आदमी ने तीन तीन और चार चार औरतें रखी हुई हैं। एक को वे घर में रख लेते हैं, खेती वगैरह का काम करने के लिये, एक को बम्बई भेज देते हैं और एक को कलकत्ता भेज देते हैं। हर साल मैं उस गांव में जाती हूं और आठ दिन या पन्द्रह दिन पहले उन के पास खबर भेज कर उन को

बुलवा लेती हैं । मैं उन से इसबात की कसम खिलवाती हूं कि वे ऐसा नहीं करेंगे । एक बार तो मैं ने वहां पर श्रीमद् भगवद्गीता का पाठ भी करवाया था । लेकिन जब हम वापस आ जाते हैं उसके बाद वे लोग उन को इस काम को करने के लिये मजबूर करते हैं ।

खड़गपुर में हम ने एक संस्था की स्थापना की थी और वहां पर हम ने कोई ५० स्वयंसेवक भी रखे थे । वहां पर हमने कलकत्ता वगैरह से ला कर ३०० के करीब लड़कियों को रखा था । परन्तु समाज ने उन की ओर घृणा की दृष्टि से देखा, उन को नहीं अपनाया और वे बेचारी लाचार हो वहां से चली गईं । तो मैं कहती हूं कि समाज को भी अपना कर्तव्य समझना चाहिये ।

मैं अन्त में माननीय मंत्री जी से यही प्रार्थना करना चाहती हूं कि वह बचावगृहों में ऐसी बहिनों को ला कर रखें और उन गहों को स्वावलम्बी बनावें । साथ ही साथ मैं समाज से भी प्रार्थना करती हूं कि वह ऐसी देवियों को अपनावे । जब ऐसा होगा तभी उन बहनों का जो दुख है वह दूर होगा, उस का निवारण होगा ।

Shrimati Sushama Sen: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we all welcome this Bill and we hope it will be passed during this session. It is a very important Bill and it should be passed.

I have just one or two suggestions to make. I quite agree with you, Sir, when you spoke on this Bill, that there should be women police.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): Magistrates also

Shrimati Sushama Sen: This is one thing which is most important. I think we should train more women in this department and there should be women police for taking up this kind of work

The other thing that I want to say is, some hon. Members have spoken about how they have eradicated this evil in China. I have just come from China, and I went into this question very thoroughly when I was there. I asked several women there, not necessarily in the Government but also outsiders, how they had got rid of this evil. They said, the Democratic Federation of Women went round each district, spoke to these women and got them employment, especially in the collective farms because by keeping them in the collective farms they can be kept separate from the other women. It is necessary to keep these women separate for some time and not let them mix in society. In China they have segregated these women by giving them employment in the collective farms. They are quite happy and do their work very well. In this way in China they have been able completely to get rid of this evil. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to try and do something in this field and see that these women get employment. Of course, for this the women's organisation should also help; I quite agree with that proposal.

With these words, Sir, I support this Bill and hope it will be passed without any amendment.

Shri Datar: Sir, I am obliged to the hon. Members of this House for the general support that they have given to the provisions of this Bill. I have not heard a single hon. Member who raised his voice against the provisions of this Bill. That is a measure of the general agreement so far as the need of this Bill is concerned.

A number of suggestions have been made. So far as the employment of women police and a number of other factors are concerned, they will be duly taken into account by the State Governments.

Shri Joachim Alva: Women Magistrates also.

Shri Datar: Women Magistrates are already there in some of the States. A beginning has been made in the appointment of women police office/

[Shri Datar]

as well. It is quite likely that after this Bill has been passed, the need for women police officers would be felt by the various State Governments and I am quite confident that they will take all the necessary steps. There are women magistrates in a number of places even now.

A criticism was made that the provisions of this Bill were unusual in the sense that a minimum sentence was laid down and that in certain cases, the provisions were rigid. I would point out to this House that we do desire that the provisions of this Bill are enforced as sternly as possible, because, as I stated yesterday, prostitution is an evil which is sapping the vitality of our women and women and moral standards are falling down. A friend suggested the other day that the western civilisation was responsible for this disease. I would say that it is not merely the western civilisation, but also the social conditions in India which are responsible. We had a double standard, one standard for men and another standard for women. When we tolerated or condoned this vice of immorality in men, we took very serious notice of the same offence when it was committed by women. There is also the inequality of social and economic conditions so far as women are concerned.

An hon. Member has suggested that it is an urban offence. It is true that this offence is confined very largely to urban areas, but we have also to understand that women are drawn to urban conditions because of the misery of their rural life. It has been pointed out in the report that in the villages and rural areas, the conditions are extremely hard. So, on the merest chance of getting some pleasure out of life, legitimate or otherwise, these people are brought here, and they are tempted to this life of vice. Therefore, there ought to be a general rise so far as economic conditions are concerned and the Governments are taking steps in this respect. I am also happy that this double standard of morality is gradually giving place to an idea of complete equality so far as our women are concerned. New social laws are being passed. A reference has been made to a number of laws which made for the inequality and disparity in the conditions of women On the positive side we have been taking various steps. So far as the penal side is concerned...

Shri Dhusiya (Basti Distt.—Central-East *cum* Gorakhpur Distt.—West-Reserved-Sch. Castes): What are those steps?

Shri Datar: We are taking a number of steps for the economic rehabilitation of India, including the rehabilitation of women. A number of Acts have been passed, so far as Hindu law is concerned which give complete equality to women. Let the hon. Member understand that only yesterday one of the last Acts of the Hindu law—the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Bill—was passed. That itself is a measure of the great attention that we are giving to give complete equality to our women. These are some of the steps, not all, that Government have taken for putting men and women on the safe footing as regards various conditions.

As I said, stern laws are necessary for rooting out this offence, which is a very age-long one.

Shri Veeraswamy (Mayuram-Reserved-Sch. Castes): Not even 2 per cent. of the Members of Parliament are present here.

Shri Datar: The importance of the Bill does not depend upon the number of Members; it depends upon the earnestness of Members—like the hon. Member who are here. Therefore, I am perfectly satisfied with the response that hon. Members have given to this Bill.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide in pursuance of the International Convention signed at New York

on the 9th day of May, 1950 for the suppression of immoral traffic in women and girls, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2.— (Definitions)

Mr. Chairman: There is only one amendment No. 23 to clause 2; but I do not find the mover, Shri N. R. Muniswamy, here.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3.— (*Punishment for keeping a brothel etc.*)

Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada): I beg to move:

Pages 2 and 3—

lines 38 and 1 respectively—

for "of not less than two years and not more than" *substitute* "which may extend to".

I have already submitted my point yesterday. The idea is not that I object to severe punishment being given. It may be enforced as strictly as possible. The point is whether it is repugnant to the sense of dignity of the court to compel the magistrate to give a minimum sentence. That is all. You can give as much margin as you like, but the magistrate must be able to take the circumstances of the case into consideration and give suitable punishment. I have no objection to heavy punishment; my objection is only to compel the magistrate that he must give two years' imprisonment.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

Pages 2 and 3—

lines 38 and 1 respectively—

for "of not less than two years and not more than" *substitute* "which may extend to".

Shri Datar: I am not accepting this amendment and I have already explained the reasons. If, for example, a man is convicted in the sense that offence has been proved, he is bound to have at least a minimum punishment. There can be no other idea That is why a minimum punishment has been provided.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Pages 2 and 3—

lines 38 and 1 respectively—

for "of not less than two years and not more than" *substitute* "which may extend to".

The motion was negatived.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur): I want to say something on clause 3. You said that you would be giving some time to those who did not get any chance in the general discussion. I want to know whether you are going to stick to that decision.

Mr. Chairman: I said, those who are anxious to participate might as well do so on the amendments and clauses. Surely if the hon. Member had got up a little earlier, I would have given him a chance. Now I am putting the clause to the House.

The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill

Clause 4.—(*Punishment for living on the earnings of prostitution*).

Mr. Chairman: Is Dr. Rama Rao moving his amendment No. 15?

Dr. Rama Rao: No, Sir.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I want to say something on this clause.

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I agree with the framers of this Bill that the punishment for this offence should be deter-

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

rent and also that the system of grade of punishment should be introduced. But I find one fatal word in this clause which is going to take away the whole effect from it.

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTTY *in the Chair*]

13-39 Hrs.

I am referring to the word "knowingly". I do not understand why this word has been put in. I think this has been put in only to soften the effect of this clause. I find that in the whole of this Bill, the tendency is to make the thing as deterrent as possible, but I cannot understand why this word "knowingly" has been put in. The purpose would be served if the word "knowingly" is removed. How is it going to help the administration of the Bill, so far as this clause is concerned, if this word is there. On the other hand, this word is going to make the conviction of a person much more difficult than it already is. I would like to understand the justification for this word in terms of psychology, or in terms of reason or in terms of law. I think this is a very useless word that has been put here. This word will give a lot of scope to those persons who are guilty to get out of the net of law that has been woven here in order to catch them. I would, therefore, say that the word 'knowingly' should be taken away because it does not mean anything so far as the style is concerned, but it will mean a great deal so far as the administration of the law is concerned. Lawyers will wax eloquent about it and they will try to prove that this man did not know or that this mar did not do it deliberately and all that kind of thing. I think it will lead to infinite legal quibling and many persons who have been guilty of the offence wil be able to escape out of this loophole. I would, therefore, say that this word should be deleted.

Shri Datar: The word 'knowingly' has been knowingly put in. It is for the purpose of saving those who are innocent of the acts of prostitution being committed by a person who is helping that other person. Take, for example, the case of a brother and sister. The brother is living in the rural areas and the sister is living in a city like Bombay or Delhi. The brother honestly believes that his sister has been carrying on a legitimate profession and out of her earnings she is helping him in the rural areas. Ultimately it comes to this that the sister is living the life of a prostitute and she is helping her brother. The moment the brother knows that the sister is living the life of a prostitute and that the amount that she is sending to him is out of these earnings, his offence begins. Otherwise, the offence does not begin at all. Therefore, an innocent person is sought to be saved, not a guilty person.

Mr. Chairman: I take it that amendment No. 15 has not been moved.

Dr. Rama Rao: No.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5.—(*Procuring, inducing or taking woman or girl for the sake of prostitution.*)

Mr. Chairman: Most of the amendments are by Shri M. L. Agrawal.

Dr. Rama Rao: I do not move amendment No. 16.

Mr. Chairman: I think Shri M. L. Agrawal may take up all these amendments together when he speaks.

Shri M. L. Agrawal: I beg to move:

(i) Page 4, line 6—

for "induces" *substitute* "induces or attempts to induce".

(ii) Page 4, line 9—

for "causes" *substitute* "causes or attempts to cause".

(iii) Page 4, line 13—

for "causes or induces" *substitute* "causes or attempts to cause or induces or attempts to induce".

(iv) Page 4—

for line 26, *substitute*: "attempt to procure or take her or to induce her to go or to cause her to be taken is made; or"

(v) Page 4—

(i) *for* line 29, *substitute* "or"; and

(ii) *after* line 29, add:

"(c) in her journey any intermediate place through which she passes as a result of the inducement, taking or causing to be taken."

There is very little time. The gist of my amendments relates to the jurisdiction which has been created in sub-clause (3) of clause 5. There are two sub-clauses (a) and (b). No doubt, jurisdiction is created at a place where the girl is procured, induced to go, taken or caused to be taken or from which an attempt to procure or take such woman or girl is made. This is all right. Either the girl is procured or taken or an attempt to take or procure is made. Then, that place will have jurisdiction. In sub-clause (b), the place to which she may have gone is referred to. The words are:

> "in the place to which she may have gone as a result of the inducement or to which she is taken or caused to be taken or an attempt to take her is made."

This attempt refers to the result and the girl reaching that ultimate place. This is quite redundant and should not have been there. Also we have provided for jurisdiction at a place where an attempt is made. I wish that these words 'or an attempt to take her is made' should be taken away from sub-clause (b).

Then, there are two places where the court will have jurisdiction: in the first place, the place from where the girl is taken and secondly, the place which the girl reaches. Then, she may pass through intermediate places. Although we can argue from sub-clause (b) that those places also will have jurisdiction, we should clearly put it. For this reason, I have put down another clause (c) which gives power to the court to take cognisance of the case at any intermediate place through which the girl passes when she moves from place A to place B.

There are four acts: a girl is procured, or induced to go, taken or caused to be taken. In this clause, attempt has also been made cognisable. But, it is not logical. Sometimes, we have made attempt to take, attempt to procure an offence, but not attempt to induce or attempt to cause to be taken. Therefore, I submit that if we make an attempt also an offence, it should be for all and not for only two acts. I want to make this clause more comprehensive and give jurisdiction to the court even in intermediate places and I want the redundant words 'for an attempt to take her is made' in sub-clause (3) (b) to be deleted. This is the effect of my amendments.

Mr. Chairman: Amendments moved:

(i) Page 4, line 6—

for "induces" *substitute* "induces or attempts to induce".

(ii) Page 4, line 9—

for "causes" *substitute* "causes or attempts to cause".

(iii) Page 4, line 13—

for "causes or induces" *substitute* "causes or attempts to cause or induces or attempts to induce".

(iv) Page 4—

for line 26, *substitute* "attempt to procure or take her or to induce her to go or to cause her to be taken is made; or"

(v) Page 4—

(i) *for* line 29, *substitute* "or"; and

[Mr. Chairman]

(ii) *after* line 29, *add*:

"(c) in her journey any intermediate place through which she passes as a result of the inducement, taking or causing to be taken."

Shri Datar: So far as the first point is concerned, it is a question of procedure as to where the particular offence should be tried. It has naturally to be tried under sub-clause (a) at the place from which the woman is procured or induced to go, etc. Sub-clause (b) relates to the place where she has gone under inducement or has been taken under inducement. Therefore, in order to facilitate the prosecution at all the possible places, these sub-clauses have been put in.

So far as the other point is concerned, regarding attempt to induce, I would point out to my hon. friend that the word attempt is used when actually there is a completed act. When there is a completed act like taking or going, naturally, the question of attempt would come in. But inducement itself is an attempt. Which is to be done by inducement is some act. Therefore, when the word inducement has been used, it imports the element of an attempt and therefore, attempt to induce would be redundant.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 4, line 6—

for "induces" *substitute* "induces or attempts to induce".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 4, line 9—

for "causes" *substitute* "causes or attempts to cause".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 4, line 13—

for "causes or induces" *substitute* "causes or attempts to cause or induces or attempts to induce".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 4—

for line 26, *substitute*: "attempt to procure or take her or to induce her to go or to cause her to be taken is made; or".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 4—

(i) *for* line 29, *substitute* "or"; and

(ii) *after* line 29, *add*:

"(c) in her journey any intermediate place through which she passes as a result of the inducement, taking or causing to be taken."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman: I propose to take up clauses 6 to 8 together because there are only three amendments.

Dr. Rama Rao: I am not moving my amendment to clause 9.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I want to speak on clause 7.

Mr. Chairman: First let me dispose of clause 6.

The question is:

"That clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Clause 7.— (*Prostitution in or in the vicinity of public places*)

Shri D. C. Sharma: I beg to submit that the words, within a distance of two hundred yards, are absolutely useless. They are going to negate the whole intention of this clause. As has been pointed on the floor of the House, we need protection so far as hostels, educational institutions and places of

religious worship are concerned, from this kind of disease. And I believe that we need more protection for them than for any other place, but the wording of this clause is such that public places of this kind will be exposed more now to the disease which this Bill seeks to control than the other places. It has, in a way, been made legal—I am using the word "legal" in a general sense—to do this beyond 200 yards. I would therefore say to the hon. Minister that he should only use the word "near" so that the thing is left purposely vague.

I see the word "knowingly" is again used in this clause. I do not know why this word is used so often in this Bill. Of course, the Minister says the innocent should not be punished. I agree. But I also believe that if you are going to make such plentiful use of this word, it will be very difficult to fasten the responsibility for any offence committed in connection with this Bill on any person. I would therefore say that this excessive fondness for the word "knowingly" is going to be, in a way, the death sentence of this Bill. I would again request the hon. Minister to cut out this word "knowingly", and to think of ways and means of making a very sparing use of it.

We are passing this Bill to catch hold of those persons who are offenders, and he thinks that this Bill is there to prove people, even those who are offenders, to be innocent. I would therefore suggest that these words "within a distance of 200 yards" should be removed if this Bill is going to help religious places, places of worship, hostels and other institutions which should be kept away from the injection of this social vice.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Sharma has not moved any amendment to that effect which he has now placed before the House. So, I shall put the clause. He can vote against it if he so desires.

The question is:

"That clause 7 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 8 to 10 were added to the Bill.

Clause 11.— (*Notification of address etc.*)

Shri M. L. Agrawal: I wish to oppose the clause.

Mr. Chairman: I shall put it to the House. He can vote against it.

The question is:

"That clause 11 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill.

Clause 12.—(*Security for good behaviour from habitual offenders*).

Shri Raghubir Sahai (Etah Distt.—North-East *cum* Budaun Distt.-East): I beg to move:

Page 8—

lines 8 to 10—

omit "finds that he has been habitually committing, or attempting to commit, or abetting the commission of, that offence or any other offence under this Act and the Court"

With the deletion of these words, the clause would read like this:

"When a court convicting a person of an offence under this Act is of opinion that it is necessary or desirable to require that person to execute a bond for good behaviour, such court may at the time of passing the sentence on the person order him to execute a bond for a sum proportionate to his means with or without sureties for his good behaviour during such period not exceeding three years as it thinks fit."

[Shri Raghubir Sahai]

By moving this amendment I want to simplify the clause and to put the entire matter within the discretion of the court. By introducing these words complications would be created, and perhaps the magistrate who tries an offence of this kind may be put to certain difficulties. I want to make his task lighter, and I think that perhaps this line of reasoning may appeal to the hon. Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

Page 8, lines 8 to 10—

Omit "finds that he has been habitually committing, or attempting to commit, or abetting the commission of, that offence or any other offence under this Act and the Court".

Shri Datar: So far as this question is concerned, this is what is known as the provision for preventing the offences whenever such offences are repeated and the wording has been borrowed from section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code. That provision has been there since long and therefore it is perfectly possible to lead evidence to show that certain persons are carrying on certain acts habitually and therefore security for good behaviour has to be called for. Therefore, it is not possible to take away these words.

Shri Raghubir Sahai: I beg to withdraw my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

Hon. Members: Yes.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 12 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12 *was added to the Bill.*

Clauses 13 *and* 14 *were added to the Bill.*

Clause 15.—(*Search without warrant*)

Shri M. L. Agrawal: I beg to move:

(i) **Page 10—**

lines 7 and 8—

Omit "and that search of the premises with warrant cannot be made without undue delay".

(ii) **Page 10,** *omit* **line 10.**

Mr. Chairman: I would request the hon. Member to be very short so that we may be able to pass the Bill. There is nothing very fundamental now.

Shri M. L. Agrawal: My amendments are with respect to clause 15. In clause 15 we have given power to the police officers to arrest without warrant. And what are the conditions when the police can arrest without warrant?

"...whenever the special police officer has reasonable grounds for believing that an offence punishable under this Act has been or is being committed in respect of a woman or girl living in any premises and that search of the premises with warrant cannot be made without undue delay, such officer may, after recording the grounds of his belief, enter and search such premises without a warrant."

I do not think that by obtaining the warrant from the magistrate there would be any prejudice to the search. Nowadays we have got telephone services, and these things happen especially in the cities where magistrates are not far removed from the police. The police can always approach the magistrates. I do not think it is any good allowing the police officers to search without warrant. It would lead to harassment, it may lead to blackmail. And we know that our police are not quite above board.

There are instances in which they take a certain action with ulterior motives. In this regard, I would read a small passage which has been given

by the Advisory Committee on Social and Moral Hygiene:

> "We must also take account of the factor of the human personality of the officials and should insure that a proper public policy does not become a vehicle of corruption or exploitation. We have also to refer to the complaints of harassment meted out to the prostitutes as a class by the men in the lower police ranks. They are often compelled to purchase peace with the police men by offers of illegal gratification in money and kind. Those who do not fall in with this line of least resistance are hounded from place to place."

So, nothing would be gained. Only we would be saving the harassment of the citizen, and therefore there is no necessity to allow the police officer to search without a warrant. In the Criminal Procedure Code there are already ample provisions to cover all cases, but if it is still thought necessary to have this provision here, there is absolutely no necessity to allow the police officer to search without warrant. At least, I have not been convinced, just as several of the hon. Members who have spoken against this provision have not been convinced. I feel that this is absolutely unnecessary. It may lead to blackmail and harassment of innocent citizens.

14.00 HRS.

With these words, I commend my amendments for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Chairman: Amendments moved:

(i) Page 10—

lines 7 and 8—

Omit "and that search of the premises with warrant cannot be made without undue delay"—

(ii) Page 10—

Omit line 10.

Shri Datar: May I point out that this question was considered in great detail by the Select Committee and they had radically amended the provision as it had originally appeared in the Bill? Now, one corrective has been provided for in this case, namely that before a warrant in this respect goes, the police officer will have to record the grounds for his belief. That itself is a circumstance which safeguards against any abuse of this power.

In all these cases, as the hon. Member will kindly understand, action has to be taken immediately, and without any inkling thereof going to the other party, namely the wrong-doer. If, for example, the police officer has to go to a magistrate and before the magistrate the whole proceeding has to take place openly, then the whole purpose will be defeated, for, all these wrong-doers are more skilful than we imagine them to be, and they have their own agents against the police and just nearabout the magistrate. So, if all this information goes or percolates to the offenders, the whole purpose of the search will be lost. So, this is a very valuable provision for the purpose of preventing prostitution.

Mr. Chairman: There is one other amendment to this clause in the name of Shri Raghavachari. The hon. Member is not present. So, I shall put amendments Nos. 6 and 7 to vote.

The question is:

Page 10—

lines 7 and 8—

Omit 'and that search of the premises with warrant cannot be made without undue delay'.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 10—

Omit line 10.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 15 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 15 *was added to the Bill.*

Clauses 16 and 17

Mr. Chairman: Then, I come to clauses 16 and 17. Since Shri Raghavachari is not present here to move his amendment to clause 17, I shall put these two clauses to vote.

The question is:

"That clauses 16 and 17 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 16 *and* 17 *were added to the Bill.*

Mr. Chairman: It is now two o' clock. But I propose to take the view of the House as to whether we can continue for another, five minutes and finish this Bill.

Shri Datar: Yes, we can finish this.

Clause 18.— (*Closure of brothels and eviction of offenders from the premises*)

Dr. Rama Rao: I beg to move:

Page 11, lines 31 and 32—

omit "within a distance of two hundred yards of any public place referred to in sub-section (1) of section 7".

Clause 18 authorises a magistrate to issue a notice directing that a house which is used as a brothel be vacated. But Government want to restrict the power of the magistrate by saying that he should not issue such notice to a brothel-owner or a house-owner who lets his house for a brothel, if that house or brothel is situated beyond a distance of two hundred yards from any public place. Of course, the definition of 'public place' is very wide, and I admit that it includes everything that can ordinarly come within that definition. Yet, I feel that this restriction on the powers of the magistrate, namely that he has no authority to issue such a notice if the house is beyond a distance of two hundred yards from any school or hospital or a place of religious worship is quite unecessary because it gives an unnecessary ground for argument and defence to the culprits.

Therefore, I want that these words be omitted, namely:

"within a distance of two hundred yards of any public place referred to in sub-section (1) of section 7".

Since the time is short, I would not dilate on this point. I hope the Minister will accept my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

Page 11, lines 31 and 32—

Omit "within a distance of two hundred yards of any public place referred to in sub-section (1) of section 7".

Shri K. C. Sodhia (Sagar): I beg to move:

Page 12, lines 22 and 21—

Omit 'sub-section (1) or'.

I would like to submit that proceedings under clause 18 (1) are quite different from those under clause 18 (2) and clauses 3 and 7. Now, sub-clause (2) of clause 18 reads:

"A court convicting a person of any offence under section 3 or section 7 may pass orders under sub-section (1), without further notice to such person..."

That the house should not be let on hire for one year. Under sub-clause (3), the orders passed under sub-clauses (1) and (2) are not appealable.

My submission is that the proceedings under sub-clause (1) and sub-clause (2) are quite independent. I do not see why an appeal should not be provided for in this case, because it is only at the instance of the police officer that the magistrate gets the

information that a particular house is being used for the purposes referred to in clause 7, and that information may be cooked up or may be wrong. So, if an appeal is not allowed against the proceedings under sub-clause (1), a big harm will be done.

I would, therefore, submit that the words 'sub-section (1) or' occurring in sub-clause (3) may be omitted, leaving only 'sub-section (2)' to remain.

Mr. Chairman: There is a Government amendment to this, namely amendment No. 20. I think that will be the answer to Shri K. C. Sodhia's point.

Amendment moved:

Page 12, lines 20 and 21—

Omit 'sub-section (1) or'.

Shri Datar: I beg to move:

Page 12—

after line 24, *add*:

"Provided that where a conviction under section 3 or section 7 is set aside on appeal on the ground that such house, room, place or any portion thereof is not being run or used as a brothel or is not being used by prostitutes for carrying on their trade, any order passed by the trial court under section (1) shall also be set aside."

I would point out that the object that my hon. friend has in view is completely covered by this amendment. Moreover, this is also a consequential amendment.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: No, it is not covered at all.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

Page 12—

after line 24, *add*:

"Provided that where a conviction under section 3 or section 7 is set aside on appeal on the ground that such house, room, place or any portion thereof is not being run or used as a brothel or is not being used by prostitutes for carrying on their trade, any order passed by the trial court under sub-section (1) shall also be set aside."

Shri K. C. Sodhia: The proceedings under clauses 3 and 7 have been covered by the amendment tabled by the Minister. But that amendment does not say anything about proceedings under sub-clause (1) of clause 18.

Shri Datar: They are quite independent. As the time is short, I would not be able to explain.

Mr. Chairman: I shall now put the amendments to vote.

The question is:

Page 11—

lines 31 and 32—

Omit 'within a distance of two hundred yards of any public place referred to in sub-section (1) of section 7'

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 12, lines 20 and 21—

Omit 'sub-section (1) or'.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 12—

after line 24, *add*:

"Provided that where a conviction under section 3 or section 7 is set aside on appeal on the ground that such house, room, place or any portion thereof is not being run or used as a brothel or is not being used by prostitutes for carrying on their trade, any order passed by the trial court under sub-section (1) shall also be set aside."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 18, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 18, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 19 and 20 were added to the Bill.

Clause 21.— (*Protective homes*)

Shrimati Jayashri (Bombay-Suburban): I beg to move:

Page 14—

lines 31 and 36—

for "at least thirty days before the date of its expiration, be renewed for a like period."

substitute "sixty days before the date of its expiration be renewed for such period as the State Government may think fit to specify in accordance with the rules made under this Act.

Provided that a licence may be renewed on an application made within sixty days before the date of its expiration, if the licensing authority is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not making the application earlier."

I have moved this amendment on the basis of another Bill which had been referred to the Select Committee, namely the Women's and Children's Institutions Licensing Bill in the name of Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah. A similar clause was there in that Bill, wherein we had suggested:

"Provided that a licence may be renewed on an application made within sixty days before the date of its expiration, if the licensing authority is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not making the application earlier."

My submission is that either through some mistake or owing to some postal difficulty, the renewal applications of many good institutions may not reach in time, and if this clause were allowed to remain as it is, then they might be prevented from continuing their work. There are many big institutions such as the Shraddhananda Ashram in Bombay. If their applications do not reach in time and their licences are not renewed, then what will happen to the inmates of those institutions? They will find their position very difficult. So, I would suggest that the amendment which I have proposed on the basis of the Women's and Children's Institutions Licensing Bill may be accepted.

Sub-clause (5) provides that a licence can be renewed for a 'like period' on an application being made at least thirty days before the date of its expiration. I have suggested that the licence may be renewed instead of for a 'like period' for 'such period as the State Government may think fit to specify in accordance with the rules made under this Act'. The words 'a like period' may mean just a short period of one year. Suppose there are very good institutions and Government are satisfied with their management; then they can extend the period. So, instead of saying that the licence may be renewed for a like period, I would say that it may be renewed for such period as the State Government may think fit to specify in accordance with the rules made under this Act.

I would, therefore, request the Minister to accept my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

Page 14—

lines 35 and 36—

for "at least thirty days before the date of its expiration, be renewed for a like period."

substitute "sixty days before the date of its expiration be renewed for such period as the State Government may think fit to specify in accordance with the rules made under this Act.

Provided that a licence may be renewed on an application made within sixty days before the date of its expiration, if the licensing authority is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not making the application earlier."

Shri K. C. Sodhia: I beg to move:

Page 15 line 15—

add at the end:

"and the inmates thereof shall be transferred to another protective home".

Sub-clause (8) of clause 21 reads:

"Where a licence in respect of a protective home has been revoked under the foregoing sub-section, such protective home shall cease to function from the date of such revocation."

I want to add the words:

"and the inmates thereof shall be transferred to another protective home."

This is a very reasonable amendment, because we have to take care of the inmates of that protective home.

Shrimati Jayashri: That will come under the rules.

Shri Datar: That comes under the rules.

May I reply to the points raised? So far as the first point raised by Shrimati Jayashri is concerned, I would point out that thirty days is the usual period put in all cases where a licence is required. The Select Committee considered the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Bill first, and they approved of this. Then, for reasons which I am not aware of, they stated that the corresponding period should be sixty days in the case of the Women's and Children's Institutions Licensing Bill. I believe that so far as protective homes are concerned, the period of thirty days would be sufficient, and all that is required is that within thirty days they have to put in an application. The application may be oral, written, or through post. Thirty days is more than a sufficient period.

So far as the point made out by my hon. friend Shri K. C. Sodhia is concerned, that can be covered; the question will be considered when the rules are made.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 15, lines 35 and 36—

for "at least thirty days before the date of its expiration, be renewed for a like period".

substitute "sixty days before the date of its expiration be renewed for such period as the State Government may think fit to specify in accordance with the rules made under this Act.

Provided that a licence may be renewed on an application made within sixty days before the date of its expiration, if the licensing authority is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not making the application earlier."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 15, line 15—

add at the end:

"and the inmates thereof shall be transferred to another protective home."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 21 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 22 to 25 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Title

Dr. Rama Rao: I have an amendment to the Title.

Mr. Chairman: I think that has been received rather late.

Dr. Rama Rao: I beg to move:

Page 1—

in the Long Title, *omit*:

"to provide in pursuance of the International Convention signed at New York on the 9th day of **May, 1950**"

Yesterday, I had explained why it was unnecessary for this sovereign House to mention that we were enacting this law in pursuance of an international organisation's suggestions. All good suggestions are welcome, but to put them in this form in law is quite unnecessary.

One hon. Member has pointed out that this item will come under the State List, but there is an exception namely that if anything is being done in pursuance of an international agreement, then legislation can be brought forward in the Central legislature. I do not know how the Central legislature is excluded or prevented from enacting a social law of this nature. I am not much of a lawyer, but Entry 1 in the Concurrent List reads as follows:

"Criminal law, including all matters included in the Indian Penal Code at the commencement of this Constitution..."

I think this item does come under the Concurrent List. Therefore, I feel there is no reason why we should have the words 'in pursuance of the International Convention signed at New York on the 9th day of May, 1950'.

Secondly, if we have no authority to pass a legislation of this nature, I am opposed to bypassing this prohibition under the excuse of some international organisation's recommendations.

Shri Datar: I would like to point out to the hon. Member that if these words were omitted, it would not be clear how Parliament was seized of this matter.

Under article 253 of the Constitution, and, if I mistake not, under Entry 14 in the Union List, Parliament can enact legislation in respect of a subject within the State's jurisdiction, provided it is in pursuance of an international covenant or agreement. So, it is absolutely essential to mention this, for, unless it is metioned that this Bill has been brought forward in pursuance of an international agreement, Parliament will have no authority at all. Therefore, the authority has to be mentioned here.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 1, in the Long Title—

omit "to provide in pursuance of the International Convention signed at New York on the 9th day of May, 1950."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

The Title was added to the Bill.

Shri Datar: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: We shall now proceed with Private Members' business. We are a little late. Actually, we should have started this business at 14.00 hours. That was decided with the concurrence of the House. We are now beginning at about 14.15 hours. We shall try and see if we can so adjust it as to enable the Finance Minister to make his statement. About that I shall announce a little later.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Shahabad South): That should also be extended by a few minutes.

Mr. Chairman: I shall just have a talk with the Minister and find out how it can be adjusted. I will announce it later.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SIXTY-FOURTH REPORT

Shri Ramachandra Reddy (Nellore): I beg to move:

> "That this House agrees with the Sixty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 28th November, 1956".

This Report fixes the time-limit for the Resolutions.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

> "That this House agrees with the Sixty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 28th November, 1956".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: This means that we have 2½ hours. We are beginning at about 14.15 hours and we shall go on till 16.30.

Regarding the Resolution to be moved by Shri Nambiar, it will be moved by Shri T. B. Vittal Rao as he has been authorised by the Speaker to do so.

Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada): May I point out that in regard to the fixation of time, we have to look to the convenience of the Members? All Members desire that we should rise at 17.00 hours. So if we can just leave five minutes for Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, that would be sufficient. So the time may be so adjusted that we can rise at 17.00 hours.

Mr. Chairman: I will just work it out. The Finance Minister has also to be consulted.

I shall make the announcement a little later.

RESOLUTION *RE* NATIONALISATION OF COLLIERIES

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): I beg to move:

> "This House is of opinion that immediate steps be taken to nationalise collieries in India".

I am doubly glad that when I move this Resolution, our Minister of Production, who has just now returned from Bihar, which has the proud privilege of producing 52 per cent. of the coal raised in India, is present here. I hope that during his busy time at Patna and elsewhere, he must have had taken some time to go round the coal mines.

May I draw the attention of the House to the chapter in the Second Five Year Plan on Minerals and Mineral Development? It has been stated therein that a country's economic development is indicated by how a country prospects, exploits and uses its mineral resources. As regards coal, the Report says:

> "In view of its basic importance as a fuel and also as a raw material for industries like iron and steel, coal carbonisation etc., coal has the first place in the programme of mineral development".

I need not, therefore, emphasise the importance of coal any more for the industrial development of our country.

Mining of coal in India started about the year 1774. That means that today, India has the experience of nearly 200 years in the mining of coal. Our production last year was 38 million tons, raised from the various collieries in India. There are 850 coal mines raising this coal employing about 3,40,000 persons. These mines are spread over the various States of India. Bihar produces 52 per cent., West Bengal 28 per cent., Hyderabad 4 per cent., Madhya Pradesh 10 per cent., Assam and Vindhya Pradesh also produce coal to a small extent. These coal mines developed in those days as

[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

feeders either to industries like cement or to iron and steel or other industries.

We have in India today coal deposits estimated several years ago at several million tons. In some parts, it is said that there are more than 6,000 million tons of coal deposits. There are coal mines raising different categories of coal. There is a coal mine producing steam coal, of which we have got enormous deposits. There is metallurgical coal, of which we have got limited resources. As regards lignite, I do not want to say anything about it, as I do not know much about it.

Out of the 850 coal mines, about 233 employ less than 50 persons each on a daily basis. There are 260 coal mines which produce annually 5,000 tons each. But out of these 850 coal mines, there are 9 coal mines which produce more than 3,00,000 tons a year. Calculating it company-wise, the figures are as follows: Limited companies 370, Companies 290 and others 200.

It is very essential that these deposits in our country should be exploited properly. But in the past few years, coal has been exploited in a manner which was not planned for the industrial development of the country but which was governed by sheer private profit motive; so much so that today there are several mines in India which, due to unplanned working, are either flooded or have fires raging in them which we are not able to combat even after several years. What does this mean? This means that so much of national wealth which should have been dug out of the bowels of the earth is wasted. Nobody could tell us how much has been wasted by fire, inundation and floods.

I will quote only a few instances which have occurred. The Porbella colliery, which has been producing one of the best grades of coal, of which we have run short, I mean, metallurgical, high grade coal, has been on fire. Nearly 3,000 workers who were employed there were thrown out. Of course, some have been absorbed elsewhere. The Chief Inspector was saying that it could be worked in 8 or 10 months. Now he wants a few more months before it could be worked. The same thing has happened in the case of the colliery in the State from which my hon. friend, Shri K. P. Tripathi, comes; fire has been raging in the Tappong colliery for the last so many months. Only during the last fortnight, the Deputy Chief Inspector of Mines has gone there with a rescue team. I do not know what are the results of his work.

Then again, take the case of the Newton Chickli colliery. There was flooding in 1954. For two years that mine could not be worked. The same is the case with the Amlabad colliery where there was an explosion and the mine could not be opened for one year. This mine was producing one of the best varieties of coal in India.

I have been pointing out these things with a view to impressing upon Members how unplanned or unscientific working results in enormous loss to our country. In these conditions, how much of coal is being raised in the public sector? Today we raise only about 8 per cent. of the total production in the public sector. The remaining 92 per cent. of the total production is under the private sector. The Minister might come forward and say that they are going to increase it. To what extent are we going to increase it? If our target under the Second Five Year Plan is fulfilled—which I doubt under the present circumstances —we can raise only up to 25 per cent. of the total production under the public sector. Still 75 per cent. will be under the private sector. That is to say, out of 60 million tons, 15 million tons will be raised in the public sector, the remaining 45 million tons being raised under the private sector.

Then we are told that plans are being made or are under consideration under the Third Five Year Plan whereby we are going to raise production to the tune of 130 million tons. When we compare our production with

the production of other industrial countries or countries which have recently gained independence, we can see how far we lag behind in this respect. We produce in India 38 million tons. In the United States of America, the annual production is 456 million tons; in the U.S.S.R. it is 391 million tons. In U.K., such a small country compared to ours with deposits far less than ours, they produce 228 million tons. West Germany produces 123 million tons; China, which only a few years ago had produced up to 60 or 70 million tons, are going to reach a target of 120 million tons in 1957. This shows how far we have progressed. Even after the third Five Year Plan period we will have only 130 million tons. That shows that if we want to industrialise our country, if we want to go ahead with our plans for industrial development, there is an immediate necessity to step up our coal production. Even the 60 million tons, which is the target under the Second Five Year Plan will be short of our demands. Even if we achieve that target, we will not be meeting the demand resultant on industrialisation.

Have we any alternate source of fuel in the place of coal? At the moment, it is not also there. We produce only 4 lakh tons of oil as against an annual consumption of 40 lakh tons. This will show how much dependent upon foreign supply we are. We were told by our Minister for Natural Resources and Scientific Research that in the Second Five Year Plan he is going to spend Rs. 30 crores and he is going to see that we have 4 million tons of oil. But according to the calculations made by the Planning Commission, our requirements at the end of the Second Five Year Plan will be about 7 million tons. So, there is no alternate fuel available. This is the position.

Then, there are the various mining leases. Of course, the recent legislation which we passed in September has modified the mining leases to a great extent. It has reduced the area to 30 sq. miles or so. Some of the British Companies which held mining leases for 999 years spread over many hundreds of acres of land like Bird and Company, the Bengal Coal Company, the Equitable Coal Company etc. which companies are always taken into consideration by our Government in fixing the price of coal. The question was raised as to how we could step up production and how we could bring up the small companies and make them bigger units. A committee was appointed. I am glad that Government have put in a very able person as the Chairman of the committee. They have produced a report after one year or so. Only one or two recommendations of that report are given to us, and that too only last week. It was said that some legislation will be undertaken for amalgamation of these companies. Knowing as I do how the Ministry of Production works, I do not know when their conclusions will be finalised. I have been hearing statements made by the hon. Minister of Production from time to time that legislation is being brought forward to take over unworked coal mines and that it will be introduced during this November-December session.

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): It is coming up this session.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I am glad. I do not know when this amalgamation of collieries will come. I wish it comes very soon.

Let us see how people are thinking about these coal mines. Political parties like the Praja Socialist and the Communist Parties have passed resolutions urging on the Government the nationalisation of coal mines. We cannot tolerate any more waste of our natural resources.

The All India Trade Union Congress and the Indian National Trade Union Congress have been demanding on several occasions the nationalisation of coal industries. Just before the Second Five Year Plan was being drafted our Minister used to give us some hope that nationalisation of coal mines is under consideration. But, when the final policy was laid down actually he gave us a different statement.

[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

What has been our experience with these private owners? Still the British-owned managing agencies are there. In 1947 we had a production of 30 million tons. In 1955, the production was 38 million tons. During the Second Plan period what are we going to get? During all these 8 long years when the coal mines were under the private sector we could increase only to the extent of 8 million tons. Can we any more rely on this private sector to produce 22 million additional tons of coal? Ten million tons have been given to the private sector and 12 million tons to the public sector. Let us see what has been the progress during these months of the first year of the Second Plan period. During the whole year they have increased their production only to the tune of 8 lakh tons. I doubt very much whether they are going to raise that 45 million tons expected of them. If one reads *Indian Coal News*, which is a fortnightly brought out by the coal magnates, it will be found that they have said that the only reason for not stepping up production was because the Ministry of Production did not make clear their plans. Only recently, it seems that the Coal Development and Production Commissioner had asked them to go ahead with their work and they are going ahead.

We have been demanding in this very House to know what yearly targets have been laid down. It is said that they are being worked out. Till this day yearly targets have not also been given. We have been urging on the Ministry time and again to devise a machinery to check up whether the private sector will keep to the targets. There is no machinery yet forthcoming.

The question of price policy is also there. It has been announced that a decision has been taken that a uniform price for coal will be charged at different rail heads, but they have not been able to come to a decision. No one can comprehend when they are going to announce this. Why is it so? It is because there are so many coal mines and so many interests that they have not been able to go ahead. Even though you have taken a decision long ago, you have not been able to announce it. But with regard to fertilisers you are quick enough to do that; you did it very quickly. In regard to this basic commodity, even many industrialists have been urging that they are charging different rates or prices for coal due to the question of freight and that they are not able to stand up competition from other quarters and they could not economically work their factories. You have not been able to do this because there is no uniform control or rather uniform policy with regard to these things.

You have got a Coal Board. There is a legislation for coal conservation and some subsidies are given. Now not a day passes without some controversy or other with the private owners as well as the Government. Always the controversy goes on and you could not satisfy either of them.

May I refer to the working conditions of those who dig out coal from the bowels of the earth? Everybody is agreed that they perform a most heroic job in digging coal, they risk their lives. But what are their wages? Their wages are the lowest among the industrial workers. Even out of the Tribunal where some sections of the workers or categories of the workers are benefited, if you compare the wages of the coal miners with those of any other industries, you will find them to be too low. This was also the case in England before the war; coal miners' wages or rather the rank of their wages used to be 88 if 100 industries were taken; but today a coal miner in England gets much above any industrial worker. But in India, he still continues to be in that low level, which is most deplorable. It should be bettered. Now, only 30,000 houses are provided for 3,40,000 workers. Annually, 330 workers die in coal mines due to various accidents, roof falls, etc. Those who are maimed,

loss of a limb, hand, leg or any other part, number about 3,000. This is the position with regard to the workers. If our plans have to succeed, you must see that the condition of these workers is improved.

Then I come to another set of employees, with whom I have had talks—they are the managers. They are the people who get some salaries ranging from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 a month. Whenever I talk to them about the production and other things, they feel far insecure under the private employer. Any regulations, any rules for safety measures they have to implement will involve additional expenditure, and if any additional expenditure is involved, their proprietors say "Don't do that". If these managers insist on it, they are afraid they will be bundled out. Even those highly paid employees, managers, have told me that even if Government is not going to nationalise the coal mines, let them at least nationalise the service of managers. They want that Government should be responsible for supplying to the proprietors these managers and their salaries should be drawn from the Government. So, all is not well with this industry.

I have said that during the course of eight long years, the private sector has been able to step up only 8 million tons, from 30 million in 1947 to 38 million in 1955, which includes also our production to some extent. If we want to improve this industry, if our country has to prosper, if our country has to go towards the goal of industrialisation, we have to develop this industry, we have to work these coal mines efficiently and economically because the other industries depend upon this. Therefore, there is no other go except nationalisation of the coal mines and the working out of a national, co-ordinated, uniform policy for it which is only possible if nationalisation is done. We have been able to nationalise the insurance business; we have been able to nationalise the Imperial Bank of India. This important industry, which is a key industry, must be nationalised here and now. Otherwise, I am afraid our Second Five Year Plan may not be successful.

Mr. Chairman: Resolution moved:

> "This House is of opinion that immediate steps be taken to nationalise collieries in India."

Shri K. P. Tripathi (Darrang): I welcome the very constructive speech of Shri Vittal Rao on this question. We have also given a good deal of thought as to whether this basic industry should be nationalised. Last time when I went to one of the collieries in Bihar and looked at the condition of the workers there, I saw that they were housed in such a way that even beasts should not be housed. There was one room in which 21 persons were housed. It was barely 8 feet broad and about 20 feet long. A series of rooms were there, and in one room I found that some of them had got their wives. I asked them how a few wives and about 20 men were living in that small room. Was it a community living? Nobody could explain as to how the morals improve under such circumstances. The house was so near the colliery that all the smoke and the coal which is permeated in the air came down on the people and made them miserable. Some of the illness to which the workers are prone is because of their condition of living. The more I see the condition of living of the workers in the collieries I come to the inevitable conclusion that unless collieries are nationalised, it will not be possible to improve their lot.

I had a discussion with some managers. They told me that coal is a wasting asset, and, therefore, employers are not interested in investing money for the purpose of housing and other working conditions so that labour might be looked after well. They think that after some time the houses might become unnecessary.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Obviously this is one of the main reasons why collieries should be nationalised, because this consideration of the wasting asset which is be-

[Shri K. P. Tripathi]

fore the private employer might not be before the Government, which will necessarily think in terms of the industry being for the good of the workers rather than for mere profit. Therefore, the more I think from this point of view of miners there is no conclusion other than that the collieries should be nationalised.

I know that the Government will not launch upon this task of nationalisation merely for the sake of workers. The main considerations will obviously be: economic considerations, considerations of personnel which will be needed for implementing the Second Plan and undertaking the limited amount of colliery expansion under the public sector which they have in view. Therefore, it would be necessary for us to consider whether nationalisation of collieries would be helpful in that direction also or whether it would be a hindrance. From that point of view, I think nationalisation would be a help rather than a hindrance.

Where shall we get the personnel for undertaking this huge task—Government might ask. The task seems to be difficult with the limited personnel. There are people who are forecasting that Government will not be able to fulfil the tasks which it had undertaken.

I feel that, if the collieries were nationalised, the personnel would be released for doing more work than at present. Why hon. friend, Shri Vittal Rao, pointed out that there were collieries which were too small. There are medium collieries and large collieries. As soon as they are nationalised, it will be possible for us to rationalise the management. One of the tragedies of Indian industries is the co-existence of uneconomic units along with economic units and so, in every one of them, there is a heavy cost of management. One very important thing so far as industries in India are concerned is rationalisation of management and it is most necessary in collieries. With nationalisation, it will be possible to manage the existing collieries with far lesser number of personnel at the managerial cadre than at present. All that surplus would be released for the purpose of manning new collieries. So, from the point of view of personnel, I have come to the conclusion that it will be wise for the Government to undertake a general nationalisation of the collieries so that the management might be rationalised.

So far as workers are concerned, the same arguments apply. What about money—the Government may ask. We have to compensate the owners to bring them under public ownership. The Government would say that it would be better to permit the sector continue and to utilise whatever money is available for the purpose of floating a new sector or to expand the public sector. This is an interesting point. I feel that if we can take over zamindaris in a particular way, we may utilise the same method for the purpose of taking over the collieries. It is not that all the compensation should be paid at once; it may be paid in a phased programme. If we do that, I have no doubt that it would be possible for us, without incurring immediate financial liabilities of a very great nature, to nationalise the collieries. Whatever money will be paid to the owners in cash right now, will be utilised by them for the purpose of developing other industries. In that way, we would be helping the private sector to undertake those industries which we are now unable to undertake.

Therefore, I feel that, either from the point of view finance or from the point of view of personnel, there is no difficulty before the Government for nationalising this industry. The House will remember that coal was one of the first industries to be nationalised in England. Why? This question has been asked and answered. Shri Vittal Rao was saying that this was a basic industry. It is true that in a planned modern economy,

everything depends upon certain bases which are the foundations of great nations. What are those bases? If you consider them, you will discover that coal is one of the bases. If the production of coal, its price and distribution are not rationalised, the expansion of industries in different parts of the country will be held up and that will be unfortunate, in the sense that our Plan will be held up. Therefore, the entire success of our Plan depends upon the proper and timely execution of these bases—one being coal. If this industry is nationalised and is taken over by the public sector in the Second Plan, Government will be able to go forward far more speedily than the private sector. The private sector has qualms and doubts as to what is in future, in spite of the assurances of the Government. It may not be able to expand corresponding to your plans. If it is not done today, possibly it will be discovered in the middle of the Plan and you will feel that you had been unwise in not doing it. Therefore, Government should think over it coolly. If it comes to the conclusion that the Five Year Plan has to be implemented, then there is no escape from the fact that at least this base of the Plan, namely, coal should be nationalised. This Ministry should be expanded to undertake this huge responsibility so that the target in regard to coal may be achieved.

Coal is a wasting asset. There is metallurgical coal which we are short of. What is the interest of private sector to conserve that coal? Its interest is in quicker profits. It does not look to the national interest. If it is nationalised, then Government would be able to plan in such a way that the natural resources are not wasted; that they are utilised. That is possible only if coal came under the public sector.

There was a discussion in the labour panel of the Planning Commission. I was also present there. The question was with regard to wages. We wanted uniform rates. There as small collieries and big collieries. The smaller ones say that they cannot pay the same wages as the bigger ones. It is for this reason that in the last award it was deemed that the small collieries would not be able to pay the wages and therefore, the coal prices had to be raised and the consumer had to pay for the inadequate wage given to the workers. Yet, the bigger collieries are making stupendous profits. If amalgamation is to be brought about, I have no doubt that if it comes under the public sector, it is possible. If it remains in the private sector, it will not be possible. The same question was raised with regard to tea gardens. Some time ago, the question of amalgamation was deemed to be necessary, and since it continues to be in the private sector, it was not possible. We worked hard for the last 9 years and completely failed. The Government will not have the machinery, and the legal sanction whereby amalgamation might be brought about within the five year plan so that efficiency and production might increase.

15-00 Hrs.

Therefore, I think, that the Government should apply its mind seriously to this task just as England applied. What England did was that India shall have to do. It is very true that so far as fuel is concerned, there should be a concerted, unified policy. We are going to have hydro-electricity, for instance; we are going to have thermal electricity; we are going to have coal power. All these are existing there. All these are forces of power to be distributed in the different areas of the country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think the hon. Member had already taken the normal time.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: I am concluding shortly. I was saying that a unified fuel policy in a planned economy is absolutely necessary. If you do not have the price structure in such a way with a uniform price available for power, then where

[Shri K. P. Tripathi]

cheaper power is available, there would be industrialisation and where it is not available, no industrialization will take place. There will be a disparity in the regional development and that will lead to heart-burning and suffering also, because where there is development, higher standards will be there and where there is no development, lower standards would prevail. So far as the Plan is concerned it is based on fuel and power and Government should have fuel and power in its own hand, so that it might make them available in the different parts of the country at the same price.

My hon. friend was saying that so far as coal is concerned, the Government thought that it should be distributed at rail heads, at the same price. It has not been possible for the Government to bring it about, because it is in the private sector. I have no doubt that this Plan or the third Plan can never succeed until and unless the Government comes to the firm conclusion that so far coal, fuel and power are concerned, it must be in the Government sector. If the Government have these three things in its own sector, then it will be able to distribute equally to all the States and all the areas, so that there may be equal regional development. Then only you will satisfy the country's requirements. The way in which the capitalist development of the country occurs is known, it conglomerates; it does not go out; it does not spread, because the cost of development of an underdeveloped area is far greater than that of a developed area. Therefore, from the point of profits it is certainly better that it takes place in the same area. From the point of view of the development of a socialistic pattern of society, it is necessary that it may be scattered and this policy of scattering the industry is impossible unless and until you have a policy of nationalizing the fuel and power structure of the country. This is the base on which you must start the Second Five Year Plan and you must conclude the third Five Year Plan with other power like electricity and gases. Then only, it will be possible for you to distribute power equally, so that regional development may take place and in this way your goal of socialistic pattern of society might be reached.

Dr. Jaisoorya (Medak): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am not going to say very much, but I think it will be realized by now that we are not using our coal resources and our coal production properly. First of all the methods that we are using are very antiquated. The machinery is very old; the method of doing it is very old. In fact, Britain was notorious for its antiquated methods as compared to Germany or United States or even China or Russia. So our methods, our machinery and our approach—I mean in the private sector—are of very low efficiency.

The Fuel Economy Research Centre has recently issued its report in which it has pointed out that having produced coal, we are allowing many things to go waste, which could be utilized advantageously. Take, for instance, coal dust. This is available in a very large quantity. Still we do not know how to make briquettes. I would like the hon. Minister or his Department to inform me whether they know anything as to how to make briquettes. (*Interruption*) I know what I am talking about.

Secondly, there is a peculiar idea in India; I do not know how planners or advisers to the planners have given an exaggerated importance to hydro-electric power. In a country where the potentialities are very great—there is no doubt about it—it is an important source, but the capacity to produce hydro-electric power is small and the cost of purchasing the machinery is very great. As compared to the unlimited amount of low grade coal which

could be converted into thermal power, I certainly consider it is tomfoolery to lay over stress on hydro-electric power. These are some of the useful points for the hon. Minister to think over.

Thirdly, I find a large amount of coal is unnecessarily transported; a large amount of coal is unnecessarily used by the Railways. The Whittaker report suggested that low grade coal which is produced should be converted into thermal power at the pit-heads.

Then I wish to inform the House that now we have processes by which coking can take place out of low grade coal. We have still no use for the by-products in India and nobody is making use of the coal tar products. All these should be considered. If the Government takes over these things, it can have an integrated plan. I do not pretend to know all about the coal question. I think that Government can work out an integrated plan by which the cost of production plus the utilization and the exploitation of bye-products of coal can be more satisfactorily done than in the private sector.

My hon. friend Shri Vittal Rao was referring to very small coal mines; some of them are so small that they employ only 50 people; their activity is limited to distributing coal in the neighbouring regional area. Ignore them; leave them aside. It is not desirable to think of nationalizing little coal mines, but certainly there are 29 coal mines which produce each 2 lakh tons of coal, and certainly you can take them over, because not only can you improve them but you can utilize them properly. I think given efficient people in the Government to direct the affairs, I see no reason why our returns should not be very much higher.

Because, we are exploiting things in which the private capitalists have no interest whatsoever. This is called 'integrated planning'. As I told you, 60 per cent of coal and traction power is used by the Railways themselves merely to transport coal. Now, we have ordered 1635 W.P. engines and what not. They have got a life of about 40 years and we have got to exploit those wretched steam locomotives for 40 years to get back our money. That means our electrification plans will be set back, or not given the actual priority they should get. The important thing is to reduce your silly ideas about hydro-electric power and to increase your ideas how to exploit thermal power. If you do that then some things can take place.

I think, with that I have exhausted all that I wanted to say. I am not an expert on coal like my hon. friend, but I have drawn your attention to this, which I have not found in your Plan.

Shri S. L. Saksena (Gorakhpur Distt.-North): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I congratulate my friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao for having brought this very important resolution. It was in 1931 that the Congress at Karachi passed a resolution for nationalisation of key industries. Even after nine years of independence this most basic industry has not been nationalised. I had thought that at least in the Second Plan they will do it. But I find even now they have only tried to reduce the period of lease and their areas. This will not really help the progress of our country.

The coal industry is treated as the most important industry in all advanced countries. The highest wages in the Soviet Union are given to coal miners. The average wage of a coal miner in the Soviet Union is about 1200 roubles per month and the highest wage paid is 6000 roubles. A rouble is equal Rs. 1-3-0 in exchange value. In China also coal industry is given very great importance. In Britain, the coal industry has been nationalised and the average wage of a coal miner there is about £13 a week.

[Shri S. L. Saksena]

Sir, from Gorakhpur, the district from which I come, many labourers have gone to work in coal mines. I know the condition of their families. They are not able to send even Rs. 15 a month to their families. The way they live in the mines is more deplorable. After a few years they will be reduced to nothing and they will die. That is the condition of our coal miners. Just now my friend told you about the number of hospitals they have got, the way they are treated and all that.

Everywhere I have gone, people have wondered why India has not nationalised coal mines so far. In most cases they belong to Britishers. If you examine as to how they were given to them on lease you will find that they were merely acts of favouritism to certain persons. In such cases, I do not think we are called upon to give them full compensation. We should enquire how the present owners got them. I do not think we should pay anything if they were not purchased with the sweat of one's labour. I appreciate the sentiments expressed by Shri Tripathi in regard to nationalisation of zamindari. Still we have to make some difference. If they are owned by British coal miners and they acquired the mines merely because they were favourites of the old rulers, I do not think for having exploited them they should get any compensation. Therefore, all those mines should be taken over without any compensation being paid. Only in cases where the present owners purchased them some compensation need be paid. There is no reason why this industry should remain with the foreigners or other private owners any longer.

The condition of workers in other countries is the best whereas the condition of coal miners in our country is the worst. The number of accients, as my friend said, is about 350 every year. I particularly enquired about accidents in the coal mines of Soviet Union, China and also Britain. I was surprised to find that the number is very very small, sometimes two or three per thousand in a year. In the last seven years this has risen in our country. The reason is that in other countries they spend huge amounts on safety measures. Our colliery owners do not spend a pie. They do not know when the industry will be nationalised. They are fully aware that nationalisation is bound to happen and, therefore, they do not spend anything on safety measures. The result is that 350 people died last year and, probably, that will continue in future also.

Then again, the most up-to-date methods are being used for mining coal in other countries. Even in China, which has so far been a backward country, most up-to-date methods are being used for mining coal, for transporting coal, for loading coal and so on. This can only be done by the Government. Why should a private owner invest large sums of money on modern machinery when he does not know when nationalisation will take place?

Therefore, from all points of view it is of the utmost importance that this industry should be nationalised immediately. In that case you can have a planned programme of investment on new machinery so that mining of coal may be made more economical with the least amount of hardship to labourers. Secondly, with nationalisation when the condition of the labourers is improved there will be better production of coal. Even if you spend any amount on other methods, the workers have to be kept in such a manner that they produce the maximum amount of coal. Safety measures can also be provided if the Government is the owner of coal mines. The present colliery owners will never provide them.

Once the industry is nationalised, Government can amalgamate the various mines and thus have very little overhead charges. That will give us cheaper coal, more coal and better coal.

Then, the best coal is now being used in the Railways. It is almost a criminal folly. Metallurgical coal should never be used for that. At present our coal miners are interested in profit. They sell away the coal to the highest bidder. This will not be possible when the industry is nationalised. We can say as to which coal should be used for which purpose. We can decide whether a particular job deserves good quality coal or an inferior quality coal.

My friend Dr. Jaisoorya pointed out the difference between hydraulic energy and thermal energy. I do not agree with him that we should not give importance to the development of hydraulic power. I do think that the importance of coal cannot in any way be ignored because of the presence of thermal energy, because even in the most advanced countries where they have thermal energy they are not able to dispense with coal. Therefore, when we have a large amount of coal in India, I do not know why we should not give proper attention to it. This must be done without any delay and without it you cannot make any progress.

You must be aware, Sir, that our production of coal is only 38 million tons a year whereas in China they will be having 120 million tons next year. We always compare ourselves with China, but in the matter of coal production it is only just one-third of what they are doing. That is something which is very deplorable. We want to increase our production. The foreigners and private owners have no interest in it. Only if the Government is the owner can this industry flourish. We should not be frightened by the amount of compensation we have to pay. If only we analyse and see who are properly entitled for such compensation, we will be able to do it. When we have paid crores and crores to acquire zamindari we can acquire this also. If we do not nationalise this industry immediately we will still be under economic slavery and the foreigners will exploit our mines to their advantage. I, therefore, support the resolution and thank my friend for having brought it.

श्री सिंहासन सिंह (जिला गोरखपुर दक्षिण) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह प्रस्ताव जो सदन के सामने है वह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है और इस को आने वाले माननीय सदस्य को मैं धन्यवाद देता हूं। इन को बधाई है कि उन का इस को लाने का अवसर मिला। महात्माजी के शब्दों में भारत के उन सब व्यवसायों का राष्ट्रीयकरण कर देना चाहिये जिन से हम अपनी नित्य के उपयोग की चीजें पैदा करने वाली मशीनों का निर्माण करते हैं।

आज दो प्रकार की वस्तुयें हैं। एक तो उपभोक्ता वस्तु और दूसरी वस्तु वह है जो इन चीजों को बनाने वाली हैं, जिन के जरिये से प्रोडक्शन (उत्पादन) होता है। इन दोनों प्रकार की वस्तुओं में उन वस्तुओं का जिन के जरिये व्यवसाय के सामान पैदा किये जाते हैं, राष्ट्रीयकरण होना नितान्त आवश्यक है। उन में भी कोयले का प्रथम स्थान है। कोयला ऐसी वस्तु है जिस के जरिये हमारी सारी इंडस्ट्रीज काम करती हैं। अगर कोयला न रहे तो जितने बड़े बड़े कल कारखाने हैं शायद वह बन्द हो जायं। हम ने छोटे बड़े कारखानों को ले लिया, हम ने आज लाइफ इंश्योरेंस (जीवन बीमा) को नैशनेलाइज (राष्ट्रीयकृत) किया, जमींदारी को ले लिया, तब कोल (कोयले) का, जिस पर हमारे सारे व्यवसाय निर्भर हैं, अब तक राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं हो पाया है यह बड़े खेद की बात है हमारे लिये। जब कि गवर्नमेंट की इंडस्ट्रियल पालिसी (औद्योगिक नीति) में भी है कि कोल का राष्ट्रीयकरण होगा और जितनी कोल माइन्स नई खोली जायंगी वह सब राष्ट्र की होंगी तब इस पर ध्यान न देना उचित नहीं है। अभी मेरे पूर्व वक्ता ने काफी आंकड़े दिये और बताया कि कोल का राष्ट्रीयकरण होने के कारण राष्ट्र के व्यवसाय में कितनी दिक्कतें पैदा होती हैं, किसी ने बिजली पैदा

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

करने के बारे में बताया, किसी ने दूसरी चीज के बारे में बताया । मैं सदन का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि कोल ऐसा व्यवसाय है जिस पर हमारे भारत का जीवन निर्भर है । चाहे हम अपने जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुओं के लिये पूंजीवादियों पर निर्भर करें या अपनी राष्ट्रीय योजनाओं को चलाना चाहें, उस में दिक्कतें हो सकती हैं । जब तक कोयले की खानें राष्ट्र की सम्पति नहीं हो जातीं एक तरफ तो मुनाफे की वृत्ति होती है । दुख की बात है कि आज लोगों का ध्यान समष्टि की तरफ कम है, व्यक्ति की तरफ ज्यादा है । हर एक आदमी हर काम में देखना चाहता है कि इस में उसका क्या लाभ है । राष्ट्र के लाभ जैसी कोई चीज उस के सामने नहीं है । सब अपना निजी लाभ देखते हैं । सब से पहले लोगों को निजी लाभ के बजाये राष्ट्र के लाभ की ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये । आज कोयले की इंडस्ट्री का राष्ट्रीयकरण न होने के कारण हमारे बहुत से व्यवसायों को धक्का पहुंच सकता है क्योंकि आज व्यवसाय निजी लाभ की दृष्टि से चलाये जाते हैं, राष्ट्र के लाभ की मनोवृत्ति से नहीं चलाये जाते हैं ।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हम भूमि का तो, जो कि अन्न पैदा करने के लिये चार या पांच इंच खोदी जाती है, राष्ट्रीयकरण भले ही न कर सके हों, लेकिन हम ने जमींदारी प्रथा को तोड़ दिया । जमीनों को तोड़ कर छोटे छोटे आदमियों को दे दिया, जो आदमी जहां जोत में था, उस को वहां काबिज बना दिया, लेकिन कोयला भीतर की जो चीज है, जो हम खानों के अन्दर पैदा करते हैं, उस के राष्ट्रीयकरण की योजना हम अभी तक नहीं लाये । हम ने जमींदारों से जब जमीन ली तो उन को मुआवजा जरूर दिया, लेकिन मुआवजा देने का जो ढंग था वह कुछ इस तरह का रहा कि मुआवजा पाने वाले को कुछ विशेष मुआवजा नहीं मिला । उनकी अलग शिकायत है इस बारे में, लेकिन गवर्नमेंट को हमेशा यह डर बना रहा करता है कि मुआवजा अधिक देना पड़ेगा । मुआवजे के मामले में भी हम ने देखा कि गवर्नमेंट की दो पालीसियां (नीतियां) हैं । जमींदारों को मुआवजा देने के वक्त तो उसूल एक रहा और पूंजीपतियों को मुआवजा देने का उसूल दूसरा है । जब लाइफ इंश्योरेंस का नैलशनलाइजशन हुआ तो उन को बाजार भाव से मुआवजा दिया गया । आज गवर्नमेंट को कोल के सम्बन्ध में भी वही डर हो सकता है । मेरे विचार में कोल के सम्बन्ध में अगर मुआवजा देना है तो संविधान के अनुसार मुआवजे का उसूल वही हो सकता है जो कि जमीन के ऊपर पैदा करने वाले लोगों को हम ने दिया है । कोयले की जमींदारी पूंजीपतियों से खरीद कर कोयले के कारखानेदारों को रुपया गवर्नमेंट को देना है। वैसे तो जो रुपया कारखानेदारों ने लगाया है उस का कई गुना तो वह कमा चुके होंगे । लेकिन अगर उस के बाद भी उन को मुआवजा देना है तो उसी हिसाब से उन को दिया जा सकता है जिस हिसाब से जमींदारों को जमीन लेते वक्त आप ने दिया था ।

कोयले की खानों के सम्बन्ध में अभी हमारे भाई शिब्बन लाल जी ने बताया है कि बहुत से आदमी कोयला खानों में दब कर मर गये हैं । उस के बारे में मैं आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि जो जमींदारी ऐबोलीशन (उन्मूलन) के वास्ते य० पी० असेम्बली में बिल पेश था उस के लागू होने में करीब पांच, छः साल लग गये । इस बीच में जमींदारों ने अपना रहा सहा जंगल भी काट लिया क्योंकि जंगल तो उन के हाथ से निकलने वाले थे । एक तरफ हमारी सरकार जंगल लगाने की व्यवस्था करती थी, ताकि पानी बरसे, इधर सहयोग से पानी भी बहुत ज्यादा बरसा है, और दूसरी तरफ जमींदार अपने बाग बगीचे काट रहे थे क्योंकि वह जानते थे

कि जंगल उन के हाथ से निकल जायेंगे। वह उन जमीनों से भविष्य में अपना कोई लाभ नहीं देख रहे थे। वैसे ही कोल वाले हैं। इस सदन के सामने राष्ट्रीयकरण की व्यवस्था है और उस पर बहस हो रही है, मैं भी राष्ट्रीयकरण के पक्ष में बोल रहा हूं, तो जितने भी कोल क्षेत्र हैं उन के मालिकों के दिल में यह डर हो सकता है कि पता नहीं किस दिन उन के कारखानों का राष्ट्रीयकरण हो जाये और वह थोड़े बहुत मुआवजे के ही मुस्तहक रह जायें इसलिये वह अपने खदानों में किसी कमी की रोक थाम नहीं करते। इस के ऊपर मैं खास तौर से ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं। हमारे गोरखपुर, देवरिया और बस्ती के लोग कोयला कारखानों में काम कर रहे हैं। उन के लिये कोई जरिया माश घर पर नहीं है। वह करें भी क्या? उन के लिये कोई और धंधा नहीं है इसलिये वह कोयला खानों में काम करने जाते हैं, वह एक वर्ष में ही काम करने के बाद टूटे हुए, मरे हुए घर लौट आते हैं। जो आदमी वहां काम करने जाता है वह मरा हुआ ही समझा जाता है, लेकिन भूख क्या नहीं करवाती। अपनी आजीविका के लिये वह जाते हैं, लेकिन वहां पर उन की रक्षा का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं है। अभी कुछ थोड़े दिन से सरकार की तरफ से ऐसा प्रतीत होता था कि भर्ती कुछ कम हो गई है, लेकिन व्यक्तिगत रूप से बहुत से ऐजेंट मालिकों के आकर मजदूरों की भर्ती करते हैं, वह उन को ले जाने के लिये तरह तरह का प्रलोभन देते हैं, कम्बल देते हैं, जूते देते हैं, कपड़े देते हैं। लेकिन फिर भी जब वह वहां से एक साल बाद लौटते हैं तो बिल्कुल टूटे फटे लौटते हैं, यहां तक कि उन को दुबारा जाने का मौका नहीं मिलता। वहां पर बिल्कुल रक्षा की व्यवस्था नहीं है। राष्ट्रीयकरण हो जाने से कुछ सरकार की जिम्मेदारी होगी कि वह मजदूरों की अधिक रक्षा करे, साथ ही मजदूरों पर अधिक ध्यान दिया जा सकेगा, उनके पठन पाठन का और जान की रक्षा का प्रबन्ध अधिक होगा। दो तीन वर्षों में न जाने कितनी कोल माइन्स (खानें) धंस गई। अभी सुना कि कोल माइन के धंस जाने पर कई आदमी उस में फंस गये और १५ दिन तक मछली खा कर जिन्दा रहे। लेकिन उन के निकालने की व्यवस्था में बड़ी ढील ढाल रही। अगर उन को सरकार ले ले तो मजदूरों के कल्याण की भावना से वह काम करेगी क्योंकि उस के सामने पैसे का ख्याल ज्यादा नहीं रहेगा, मुनाफे का ख्याल ज्यादा नहीं रहेगा। कोल माइन ठीक तौर से चले, मजदूरों के जान की रक्षा हो, अधिक से अधिक माल कम से कम मुनाफे में खोदा जाये और अधिक से अधिक पैसा मजदूरों को दिया जाये, इस की व्यवस्था रहेगी।

अभी सरकार की योजना थी कि बड़ी बड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज में मजदूरों को भी व्यवस्था में हिस्सा दिया जाये। लेकिन अभी तक कोई इन्तजाम उस का नहीं हुआ है। यह बहुत दूर तक की चीज है, लेकिन कोयला एक ऐसा विषय है कि मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय उस पर ध्यान देंगे। इस विषय को अब अधिक दिन तक टाला न जाये क्योंकि वातावरण में और वायुमंडल में कोयले के राष्ट्रीयकरण की चर्चा चलती रहेगी तो कोयला खानों के मालिकों के दिल में एक धक्का जरूर रहेगा और वह लोग कोई अच्छी व्यवस्था नहीं करेंगे। मगर आप ने इस में देर की तो यू० पी० के जंगलों का जो हाल हुआ, यानी वह बिल्कुल साफ कर दिये गये, वही कोयला खानों के बारे में भी होगा। मैं ने कोलिअरीज (कोयला खदानों) को देखा तो नहीं है, लेकिन मजदूरों के अनुभवों से मैं यही समझता हूं। इसलिये मुझे महात्मा गांधी के शब्द तो याद नहीं हैं, लेकिन जहां तक मुझे स्मरण है उन्हों ने कहा था ऐसे व्यवसाय सब राष्ट्रों के हों, किसी व्यक्ति के न रहें।

आज हम सोशलिस्ट पैटर्न अर्थात् समाजवादी ढांचे की चर्चा करते हैं, लेकिन इस के लिये आवश्यक है कि पहले हमारे व्यवसाय ठीक हों। मैं ने आप से पहले भी कहा है कि

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

उस की ओर अग्रसर होने में, उस की ओर आगे बढ़ने में यह सब चीजें सार्थक हो सकती हैं । अगर इन चीजों को हम ने सामने न रखा, उन को देर तक ठहरने दिया और वह ज्योंकि त्यों चलती रहीं तो सामाजिक ढांचे को आगे बढ़ाने में बड़ी रुकावट पड़ेगी । सामाजवादी ढांचे की ओर बढ़ने के लिये जिस की भारत के लिये जरूरत है, यह आवश्यक है कि देश की कोल माइन्ज जो हैं वह सारी राष्ट्र के हाथ में हों । कोयला जो है वह बड़ी शक्ति है, वह अग्नि है । अगर हम ने अग्नि पर अधिकार कर लिया तो हमारा सब काम चल सकता है, लेकिन अगर वह दूसरों के हाथों में है, अगर सरकार दूसरों के सहारे चलती है, कम्पनी के ऊपर आश्रित हो कर चलती है तो काम बिगड़ सैकता है । इसलिये इस शक्ति को जिस से दूसरी शक्तियां पैदा होती हैं, राष्ट्र के हाथों से अलग रहने देना राष्ट्र के हित में नहीं है ।

इसलिये मैं प्रस्ताव का स्वागत करता हूं और मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि जितनी जल्दी हो सके इस काम को करें । यह सदन तो अब खत्म हो रहा है, अंगले सदन में गवर्नमेंट का पहला प्रस्ताव वह होना चाहिये कि कोल माइन्स का राष्ट्रीयकरण कर लिया जाये ।

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, when the debate started, I had no intention of participating in the discussion. But, I remember how, last month, I had been to two hospitals in Asansol to see the 11 colliery workers who had been entombed for more than 10 days and yet had the courage and tenacity to cling to life, were rescued, men, whose life underneath mother earth was itself a symbol of the heroism of the workers who man our coal mines. I felt, therefore, that I owe it to them, to the heroism of those who go down the bowels of the earth to produce wealth for the community, to say a few words in support of the resolution.

I see also that the hon. Minister for Production is now sitting side by side with the Minister for Finance and I feel that in regard to a matter of such importance as the nationalisation of coal, which is suggested in this resolution, the Cabinet, as a whole, should have some sort of a definite policy which this House has a right to be informed of. I say this because we have been told about a socialist pattern of society and, naturally, it involves the co-existence for a foreseeable period of time of the private sector along with the public sector, the latter occupying strategic positions. If we conceive of a socialist pattern of society, we do not foresee an indefinite continuance of the private sector, particularly in those strategic areas of our economy which the public sector should control as soon as ever that is possible. It goes without saying that coal is a sector of the economy which the State ought to control as soon as ever that can be done. That being so, we must have a definite idea and the private interests who are operating in the sphere of coal should, in fairness, be told what exactly to expect.

For the time being, what happens is that a large part of the production of our coal is controlled by foreign interests. We see also that while large profits accrue, there is an amount of anarchy in so far as there are some large and well-run establishments, and there is also a plethora of small collieries which have a hand to mouth existence. If this is so, if there is a kind of anarchy in the sphere of production as far as coal is concerned, if we see certain foreign interests still operating, if we think that coal is an element of our economy which should come under the direct control of the State, surely, we should make up our mind about nationalisation as soon as we can.

The private sector has its arguments which it does not hesitate to advertise. I have seen it said that the private sector manages the production

of coal a great deal better than the State. The private sector has come forward to say that if we had the money which the State proposes to spend under the Second Five Year Plan, we could have produced more tonnage. The private sector says that they could produce the State's allocation of production in the Second Plan period at a much cheaper cost. The private sector does this kind of propaganda and advertises its superiority and its greater efficiency only because, I fear, the public sector has suffered so far and it continues to suffer from the weight of bureaucracy. If our Government is at all serious about the socialist pattern objective, it should adopt steps here and now to remove that load of bureaucracy and to enlist elements from the private sector in the service of the State. I say this in a very serious way because we have very often heard representatives of the private sector in this House, whom I do not see today for some reason or order, say that they are just as patriotic as any other section of the community. If that is so and if the country has decided upon the socialist pattern of society to be its objective, it is for the private sector to supply the talent and organisational strength to the State. It is for the State to make it possible for the people in the private sector today to come forward and make their contribution. I say, therefore, that it is for the State here and now to decide on certain steps of development. I can certainly conceive that, let us say, after 3 Five-Year Plan periods, let us say, after 15 years from today, surely, in a basic element of our economy, coal, you are not going to have the private sector at all. How are you going to work out the elimination of the private sector from control of an important and strategic item in our economy in, let us say, 10 or 15 years time? That is a very serious problem and that is the problem to which, surely, the Cabinet ought to apply its mind. Therefore I say that I wish the Government comes forward and says definitely that since a socialist pattern of society is its objective and since that pattern is likely to be largely achieved in the course of the next 2 or 3 Five Year Plans, surely in the sphere of coal, certain objective steps are going to be taken. May be not immediately; but this House has a right to know what it is going to do about it. As far as we are concerned, we suggest that steps should be taken here and now for the purpose of nationalisation.

My hon. friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao has already given so many reasons. He has shown how our production will fall far below the target if you do not take steps betimes and if you do not adopt nationalisation methods. I wish also to repeat the argument which he only suggested which was that we can save a great deal of foreign exchange if our fuel resources can be developed. We do believe that, because, in spite of all endeavour to find oil in different regions of our country so far, estimates are not particularly happy, a large amount of foreign exchange should be saved by means of the development of our coal production. Therefore, I feel that nationalisation, rid of all dangers of bureaucracy, is certainly a solution which we should try to adopt. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao also tried to point out how there are people who are working in our collieries in managerial positions, who are Mining engineers and so on, can give us many ideas about the development of production. It so happens that these people, working under private capitalists, are afraid of giving expression to their ideas, because, these ideas initially would entail certain costs which the private capitalist does not wish to bear. At the present moment, working under private capitalists, these experts, whose services should be mobilised for the purpose of the community, are not able to give of their best. Apart from that, the workers can contribute their ideas. The experience of the Soviet Union or China is quite eloquent on this point. The average rank and file worker in the coal mining industry can offer ideas which would revolutionise the whole

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quality of production and also its quantity. Apart from the rank and file worker, even those in the managerial level today have their own ideas which they can contribute, which in private discussions they talk about. But, those ideas are simply wasted because, generally speaking, these ideas entail some special expenditure which the private capitalist wants to avoid.

Then, again, there is the question of safety measures. I began by saying how there was in Asansol a very serious accident in which a number of miners were killed, in which 11 people, by a miracle, survived. I saw the survivors, as I said before. Safety devices have got to be improved and provided for in as large a scale as possible. Safety devices to be adopted on that scale naturally entail expenditure. In England when they had nationalisation of the coal mines, the question came up that the State had to spend a great deal more on certain items than private capitalists would, but the State decided that in the interests of not only the workers in the coal mines industry, but in the interests of the entire community, it was necessary for the State to undertake the expenditure for that purpose, and therefore, for the development of our coal production, for safety devices, for all kinds of welfare and amenity provisions in our coal mines, certainly it is for the State to come forward.

Then, reference has been made in the discussion to the case of the smaller collieries. There are quite a number of these small collieries scattered all over the place, and they find it very difficult to compete on equal terms with the larger collieries. Now, there is a move to secure amalgamation of these smaller collieries. How is that amalgamation going to be done? I know it is pending investigation, but it is for Government now to come forward and say that perhaps for an interim period, perhaps tentatively speaking, Government might enter into a sort of relationship with these small men who own small collieries. There might even be, tentatively, for an interim period, State-*cum*-private enterprise collieries. There might be certain co-operative organisations where the State has the whip hand. Now, Government must have certain ideas in regard to this matter, and this House has a right to know how Government is proceeding in regard to such things.

Then, in regard to prospecting, we have the other Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, we have the Ministry of Education. Now, prospecting can be done on a nation-wide scale only when you link up the work in the universities, in the geological institutions, with the work in the industry, with the work on the production sector. Unless, therefore, the State comes into the picture, unless the State, therefore, mobilises so to speak, the patriotic instincts of our people, our students, our young people who are working in the Geological Survey and elsewhere—we can get voluntary services in this regard also —this cannot be done. Prospecting has got to be linked up with production. Prospecting, mining, marketing, transport—all these belong to the sphere of the State. Unless the State, with the objective of welfare for the maximum number of people, comes into the scene effectively, our objectives will not be realised. That is the main point. It is for the State to come into the picture and properly. It is for the State to pull its weight in favour of the overwhelming majority of the citizens.

What happens now is that the price of coal is raised because the wages of the coal miners is very grudgingly increased, not to the satisfaction of the generality of the coal miners, but the mine owners point out how the price of coal has got to be raised because some more money has to be given to the miners. The common people would naturally object to that sort of thing altogether. If, therefore,

the bias is in favour of the overwhelming majority of the people, that is to say if the State is conditioned by the interests of the overwhelming majority of our people, then, the State would intervene in favour of welfare for as many as we can provide welfare measures for. And therefore I feel here is an industry which is basic to our industry, here is an industry which is absolutely important as far as our planned programmes are concerned, here is an industry which we cannot indefinitely leave in the control of the private sector, here is an industry where the private sector, if it has any points in its favour in regard to efficiency, should be mobilised and its services enlisted by the State, here is an industry where there are some small collieries which are in a very chaotic condition, which could very well either be taken over or be co-operatively organised under Government direction, here is an industry a large part of which is still controlled by foreign interests, here is an industry which we can develop and thereby save a great deal of foreign exchange, and therefore, here is an industry where we should certainly see the State playing a very much larger role than it has done so far.

I do not expect the Minister to tell me that he has decided on nationalisation. But let him tell us in view particularly of the almost unanimous view expressed by Members of this House who have spoken this afternoon—it may be an accident, but it so happens that almost unanimous support has been given to the resolution—what Government feels in regard to this matter, and even if he says that he cannot accept this resolution, I would like him to point out what exactly are the steps he envisages. It is no good merely saying we cannot take over the coal mines straightaway. I want the Government to come forward and say that Government does have a real plan in regard to coal, and that that plan is in conformity with the entire phasing pattern of the movement towards a socialist form of society. That is why I support the resolution which has been moved by Shri Vittal Rao.

Shri L. Jogeshwar Singh (Inner Manipur): I wholeheartedly support the nationalisation of coal mines, and would draw attention to one aspect of this resolution. My complaint in this connection is that the production of coal has been totally neglected and has suffered. And particularly for instance, during the last one year or more the Ministry has been sleeping over files of prospecting coal in Manipur. I have drawn the attention of the Minister to the development of underdeveloped areas where there is a belt of coal mines, especially in the eastern part of India. There is large amount of production in certain parts of Assam, especially in Shillong, and prospecting can be done in other parts of that area, especially in Manipur. I have placed this matter before the Ministry. In this connection I also consulted the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, but their attitude has been cold towards the exploitation of certain mines in that part of the country. They say: "What is the use of coal here, because there is no transport." I wonder, how many lorries will be required to transport coal from this part of the country while we have hundred of lorries daily carrying essential commodities. I think it is a vary fantastic statement for the secretariat to make. For instance, they say, there is the gold mine in Kolar which has not been properly utilised. They say: "What is the use of small particles of gold being available in that part of the country? No transport is available." I wonder how many lorries will be required to transport gold and I also wonder at this attitude of the secretariat, especially that of the Secretary for Natural Resources. I met them more than one year ago.

I refer to this matter because the Secretariat has got a more or less bureaucratic mentality. They have not so far changed their attitude in spite

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of changed conditions after freedom. At least they should be sympathetic to the problems brought before them so far as the under-developed areas are concerned. Production has been totally neglected and that is why I approached them and also the people there.

Coal has been found in some parts of Manipur which is of good quality, but how attention has not been paid to it so long I do not know. If they do not want to nationalise these coal mines, I think production of coal will be adversely affected, because I have seen that they have given very little attention to the problems of exploitation of coal and other mineral resources in the under-developed areas. If you want to have progress in the different parts of India, your mind should be applied to the problems of the under-developed areas also. Therefore, I fully support the nationalisation of coal mines.

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): This subject has been discussed in this House on several occasions during this year. During the debate on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Production, many Members raised this question. There have also been several demands for policy statements during the Question Hour.

The Minister of Production gave a detailed explanation of the policy of Government in this matter during the last Budget debate. The repeated demand that the policy of Government should be made clear is not easily intelligible. It has been stated more than once on behalf of Government that the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1948 and now the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956, clearly lays down the policy which is being followed in this matter. This question has been before Government from the very time that the Interim National Government took over the reins of administration in 1946. Several committees have since then, been appointed. They submitted reports, and if the policy, as it has developed gradually during these few years is studied, it will be seen that we are moving very much towards the objective which hon. Members have in view. Anyway, my task has become lighter on account of the interpretation given to the Resolution by the Deputy Leader of the Communist Party. I cannot accept the Resolution in the form, it has been moved by Shri T. B. Vittal Rao, but if he has in mind what his Deputy Leader has said, that in a period of 10, 15 or 20 years, we should be able to nationalise this basic industry, then I can say that we are working towards the same end.

Shri S. L. Saksena: 15 years.

Shri Satish Chandra: That is what has been said by the hon. Member to his right.

Shri S. L. Saksena: He never said 15 years.

Shri Satish Chandra: In 1946, the Government decided that State ownership and operation of the entire coal industry was not a practical issue. That was the decision then. Nevertheless, State ownership and operation could be extended in certain eventualities. That was the position in 1946, the pre-independence period. Later on, the hon. members will find a gradual evolution of that policy. The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1948 declared that the State would be exclusively responsible for the establishment of new undertakings except where, in the national interest, the State itself found it necessary to secure the co-operation of private enterprise, subject to such control and regulation as the Central Government might prescribe. The Government decided to let existing undertakings develop for a period of ten years during which they were to be allowed all facilities for efficient working and reasonable expansion.

This policy was reviewed one year later. It was decided that if the right to work new undertakings had already been conferred by grant of prospecting licences or mining leases on any party, that party would be permitted to develop the undertakings, unless they were taken over by the State for any special reasons. In areas where no such rights existed, each case was to be decided on merits, as to the undertaking being developed by the State or by Private enterprise.

The 1956 Policy Resolution says that all new units in the coal industry, save where their establishment in the private sector has already been approved, will be set up by the State. This does not preclude the expansion of the existing privately-owned units or possibility of the State securing the co-operation of private enterprise in the new units where the national interests so require. It might be said that this is only a paraphrasing of the previous Resolution. But if it is read carefully, it will perhaps be clear that there is a shift in emphasis, and the policy in future will be that no new collieries, except for very minor ones in outlying areas, will be allowed to be established in the private sector, except where the production can increase in areas immediately contiguous to the existing mines. This is the present policy.

As the hon. Mover is aware, the target of production at the end of the second Five Year Plan is 60 million tons. Out of the additional production of 22 million tons, about 12 million tons are to be raised in the public sector and 10 millions in the private sector. The Mover has given his figures and presented his case in a manner which might give a wrong impression. The fact is that in a period of five years, the production is to become about four times in the public sector. Some of the present collieries in this country have been in existence, as he himself has said, for 200 years. If in a period of 100 years, the public sector was able to raise only 3 million tons of coal, then to aim at raising it by another 12 million tons in a period of five years will not be a minor achievement. I do not know why he has his doubts about this target. I hope that with the resources now available to us, the plans that have been drawn up and the prospecting and drilling that has been done and is being done, it will be possible to fulfil this target.

I can only assure the House that every effort is being made to utilise the resources to the maximum advantage. The question is very simple. We broadly agree as to our ultimate objective. It has however not been possible to take immediate steps for the nationalisation of the industry for the simple reason that the resources—both of money as well as technical personnel—which could be harnessed for this industry are limited. The question is whether it will be advantageous to utilize the limited resources that we have on nationalisation of the existing obsolete and out-of-date mines which are already working or to use them more profitably by developing new mines and producing additional coal. There is at present a genuine difficulty in finding suitable administrative and technical personnel to manage the coal mines. There are many persons in the private coal industry who possess good experience of running these mines efficiently. I wish that their response to the public sector is as good as is expected by the hon. Deputy Leader opposite. But, it was felt that it would not be possible for various reasons to utilise their services in the public sector. It would be a distinct loss if their talent was not utilized for augmenting coal production. It would perhaps be better to let them work where they are and to train additional personnel for the development of fresh mines.

16 hrs.

The development of the coal industry is, to a large extent, controlled and regulated by the Government.

[Shri Satish Chandra]

The private sector is not left completely free to do what it likes. There are all sorts of controls. In fact, the production, distribution and prices are all controlled. No lease can be given today for prospecting or mining of a new area without the sanction of the Central Government. Permission of the Coal Board is necessary to start new work in a colliery. New coal undertakings can be started only subject to permission being granted under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. Then, there are provisions for the inspection of mines, for safety measures to be adopted, for conservation of higher qualities of coal etc.

A friend asked as to why the production of metallurgical coal has not been increasing. In fact, we do not want to increase production of metallurgical coal. Whatever metallurgical coal is being produced today is not being utilised for the purposes that it should be. The idea is that all of it should be gradually diverted to the steel plants as they go into production. Some of the present consumers of metallurgical coal should be given an inferior grade of coal. It is not in our interest that metallurgical coal should be extracted indiscriminately.

The rules framed under the Mines Act have imposed many limitation on the private colliery owners regarding safety of the mines and conservation of coal. There are provisions for the provident fund bonus and we are taking measures. There is a cess of 6 annas per ton, on all production of coal, a substantial part of which is spent on labour housing. It will be possible to build gradually more houses for the colliery labour.

These are just the examples to show as to how the private coal industry is being controlled by the State. The only thing that we have not done is to acquire ownership rights and physical control of these collieries and to take them under our direct charge, because we felt that more emphasis should be laid on additional production rather than on some sort of satisfaction as a result of taking over the mines which are already engaged in production. Some of these mines as I have said are really not worth taking due to their being obsolete and out of date. The limited resources that we have, must be utilised in the best manner possible. There is, therefore, only a slight difference in the approach of the Government and the Mover. The problem really is how to proceed in the matter. If the Government had tried to acquire the existing mines, the programme of additional production would have probably been curtailed. That would not have been in the interest of the economic development of the country.

Many hon. Members have spoken about the small and inefficient collieries. The House is aware that a committee was appointed some time ago to study the problem of small collieries lying in between bigger collieries and to suggest ways and means of tackling that problem. That committee has just now submitted its report. The Chairman of the Estimates Committee of this House was the Chairman of that committee which has given a very useful report making important recommendations. It has been received only a few weeks back and the recommendations are being examined. I hope that small colliery owners will in their own interest be persuaded to amalgamate voluntarily into larger units. If that is not possible, some legislation may have to be brought forward before this House to compel the smaller collieries to amalgamate so that they can be turned into more efficient units than what they are now. This question has not been ignored. It is now being examined and I hope that some decision will be arrived at very soon.

Dr. Jaisoorya has made some very constructive suggestions. It is not as if these problems have not engaged our attention. The council of Scientific and Industrial Research has several times discussed the question of utilisation of coal and the deve-

lopment of chemical industries. A Coal Council has recently been appointed. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is represented on the Council. Dr. J. C. Ghosh of the Planning Commission and some other persons with knowledge of the coal industry are members. The Council will examine how we can utilise in the best manner possible our coal resources, develop new industries and coal tar distillation processes. Only this morning I was replying to a question about the utilization of low grade coal for the production of synthetic petroleum.

The House is aware that big thermal stations have recently been set up, for instance the Bokharo thermal station. A big thermal station is included in the lignite project. Wherever, there is a shortage of power and wherever coal or lignite can be usefully utilised for generation of electricity, the intention is to use such coal or lignite on the spot, to generate power for the development of various industries in the region. There can be no difference in principle about this matter. I cannot, however, agree with the hon. Member that we have given lopsided attention to our hydro-electric power. That is not a matter immediately concerning me. But, in our multi-purpose projects we have tried to utilise our water resources for the generation of electricity and this has helped our industrial progress. The hon. Member Dr. Jaisoorya is aware that river valley projects are not single-purpose schemes. Flood control, irrigation and other things come in. These hydro-electric power stations have given us very cheap power. It is difficult to imagine that cheaper power can be generated in thermal station even if these power stations are set up right in the centre of the collieries.

Much has been said about the wages of the labour in the coal fields. The House is aware that only a few months ago, an Industrial Tribunal gave an award and the wages of the workers were increased by about 40 per cent. on an average—there may be some exceptions—and some of the Unions, with which the hon. Mover of the Resolution is probably connected, have filed an appeal. That award has already been implemented. The matter is, however, still *sub-judice;* the appeal is being considered by an Appellate Tribunal. The Industrial Tribunal has gone thoroughly into the economic structure of the coal mines, the cost of raising coal, the price that is charged, the profits that are earned by collieries, and after considering these factors has given a fair award. If the hon. Member is still not satisfied with it, the Unions in which he has influence have still got an opportunity to press their view before the Appellate Tribunal. It is not very fair that so soon after a big rise in wages the question should be agitated again in this House especially at a time when the matter is being reviewed on an application moved by some of the Unions. What I say is that the wages have increased by 40 per cent. recently.

Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada): 40 per cent. on how much? The percentage is 40; but on how much?

Shri Satish Chandra: I think it is a fair amount. If a man had been getting Rs. 50, he now gets Rs. 70 per month. It is a big jump. In some of the areas it will be still more. In Bengal-Bihar fields, the increase is about 40 per cent; in other areas where the wages were lower, the percentage of increase will be higher as the wages have been made uniform all over the country. So, I think that this matter should rest at least for some time, till, say, the end of the second Plan period. It can be agitated at a later stage. Government is very mindful of the amenities of the workers, their housing, their welfare, etc., but progress can only be made within the limited resources available and in the context of the

[Shri Satish Chandra]

fancy for such organisations because general labour conditions in the country.

It is no use, as an hon. friend has done, trying to compare the production of coal in India with that in U.S.A. or Russia.

Shri S. L. Saksena: In China.

Shri Satish Chandra: Our present production may be comparable to that of China.

Shri S. L. Saksena: You are wrong; it is less than half.

Shri Satish Chandra: I do not claim to be an expert on China. I do not know the wages paid there, what is the production, how much they have increased, but the figures that Shri Vittal Rao gave were not very startling.

Shri S. L. Saksena: I happened to study them and compare them with our figures.

Shri Satish Chandra: I have no comparative assessment before me. I think in many matters we can stand a fair comparison with China. Moreover, we have to think in our own terms, in the context of the general industrial conditions in this country. I have no doubt that given a period of 20, 25 or 30 years, this country will be able to catch up with any advanced country in the world. Russia has caught up with other advanced countries of the world in a period of 40 years. I would be perfectly willing to compare our achievements with the progress made in the First Five Year Plan in U.S.S.R. or in China.

Shri S. L. Saksena: Compare them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That comparison may be done at some other time.

Shri Satish Chandra: In the end, I would only repeat what I said in the beginning, that Government wants to have as much control over this industry as is possible. This is a basic and important industry. We are proceeding towards the same objective which the hon. Members who spoke on the Resolution have in view, but wholesale nationalisation in the immediate future is not a practical proposition. Taking an objective view of the whole thing, it has been decided that new areas should be worked by the State, while the old collieries should be allowed to function and should be encouraged to increase their production by extending their operation in the immediately contiguous areas. That is the policy which is being followed, and in the present circumstances, it is perhaps the best policy. I thank the hon. Mover of this Resolution because such discussions focus attention and help us in moving towards our objective even though it may not be possible to realise it immediately.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I will be very very short in my reply. I rise to express my thanks to the various hon. Members who have supported my Resolution. All those who took part in the discussion this afternoon, excepting the hon. Deputy Minister, have supported the Resolution. Even he accepts some of it. What I say in this Resolution is only "steps be taken to nationalise collieries". That is all; I never demanded that the nationalisation should be done here and now.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Please read your Resolution carefully.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I was speaking about some mines in the private sector and the Deputy Minister has tried to confuse to some extent that I wanted him to take over the mines absolutely. I never said that. He is depending upon the very mines to produce 45 million tons per year in the Second Five Year Plan. Therefore, they could not be obsolete. If these mines were taken over and if they are planned and regulated, we would be able to carry out successfully our plans of industrialisation. That was my view.

Secondly, about the labour welfare fund, I wish to say this. It is true that we are collecting six annas on every ton of coal. But all that amount does not constitute this fund for housing. It is distributed in the ratio of 7·2 and only 2/9ths of that amount, that is Re. 0-1-4, per every ton goes into it. This may kindly be taken note of.

Then, again he referred to the constitution of the Coal Council. In that body, representation is given to some of the Government officials and some important magnates in the coal industry. They have forgotten the mining engineers, except those mining engineers who are in Government Service. The others have been omitted. I say that the Government is not at all properly advised in matters regarding the coal mining industry. I am sure that they will realise it at a very great cost, if they do not review the situation quickly. Today, the capital investment in the coal industry does not amount to more than Rs. 22-23 crores. By taking over the mines and agreeing to pay a reasonable compensation spread over, say, twenty years, the Government need not spend any heavy sum now. Anyway, the support extended by the friends here to my resolution clearly shows that it is in keeping with the aspirations of the people.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"This House is of opinion that immediate steps be taken to nationalise collieries in India."

The motion was negatived.

RESOLUTION RE. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN OF POLITICAL SUFFERERS

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Shahbad South): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that the Government should award scholarships to the children of such political sufferers in the country as have not got adequate source of income for their education."

I think that this resolution ought to have been moved in this House and accepted also on the very day the country achieved its Independence. I am sorry that it has not been done so.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satyanarayan Sinha): Better late than never.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Anyway, it has been moved to day and I am confident that this will find unanimous acceptance of the House. Most of the hon. Members who are present here had actively participated in the struggle for freedom of the country and they are well aware of the sufferings of their fellow political sufferers who have not got adequate sources of income. They also know to what difficulties these people are put at present because of the high cost of living. In such conditions, it is very difficult for those political sufferers to send their childern even to schools.

This resolution which I have moved is intended to cover all the political sufferers who had participated in all the Movements since 1905 till 1942, irrespective of their present party affiliations. They may belong to any party today. I think they must be given the benefits of this resolution. The number of such persons may go up to hundreds of thousands but we can certainly exclude all the political sufferers who have at present some source of income. We can also exclude the members of the legislatures, local bodies and Ministers who are privileged to hold very high positions in the Government. I myself know a large number of political sufferers who bore the brunt of bullets and lathi charges. I know quite a few of our revered patriots who were sent to gallows and heroically fell a victim to bullets and lathi charges

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But, every body feels pained to see the family of those martyrs and patriots, and particularly their children leading a very miserable life at present. They are proud to belong to families which had staked all for the freedom of the country.

Therefore, I think that the country and particularly our national Government which is being led by one of the greatest patriots of the country should take care of those children who are in unfortunate circumstances these days and send them to schools. If we do not do that, those children and their helpless parents will feel that the country is unmindful of the sufferings of their forefathers and may discredit us and all the persons who are at present in the control of the Government.

It may be said that Gandhiji and the Congress, at the time of those events, had specifically declared that those who joined the movement should not think that they would get any return later on and all the persons who had joined the movement at that time also did not expect that they would get anything in return for joining the movement. But, now the days are changing and we are free and we occupy a very high position. Our country has also enhanced its prestige. In those circumstances, we must honour our martyrs and patriots and all the political sufferers by providing at least enough opportunities to their children to go to school and to have a good education.

It may also be said that the State Governments are giving certain facilities to the families of political sufferers. To some extent it is true. We are grateful to the State Governments which have given such facilities to the families of political sufferers. In spite of that, there are a large number of political sufferers in the country and their families are not in a position to have two square meals a day. Such a situation is insulting to this country.

It is also said that it may be the fault of the political sufferers themselves. I am not ready to accept it because there are so many schemes which are virtually taken up by the State and the Central Governments. To deny in general any facility to the family of political sufferers on the ground that they are getting certain facilities from the State Governments is not reasonable; it is not understandable to anybody. There are numerous schemes of the State and the Central Government which virtually overlap. For instance, the State Governments award different categories of scholarships and the Central Government also awards certain scholarships. Then, there are libraries etc. receiving aid both from the Central and the State Governments. Such schemes overlap one another. Therefore, I would like to say that even though there is to some extent such overlapping in the idea contained in the resolution, the Government should accept for their sake. All the persons who had hanged our martyrs, who had jailed them, who had beaten them, who had killed them, they are all in key positions today. All the facilities given by both the State Governments and the Central Government—the merit scholarships, etc.—are being given largely to the children of those persons.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member likely to take some more time?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then, he may continue next time.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): I suggest, Sir, that the amendments may be taken as moved.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Unless the resolution is moved we cannot take the amendments as moved.

This will be continued next time. We shall now take up the other item.

ECONOMIC SITUATION AND TAXATION PROPOSALS

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am taking the liberty of encroaching on the valuable time of the House to make a statement because I propose to ask for the leave of the House to introduce two Bills.

Ordinarily, a speech is not necessary on the occasion of introducing a Bill. As the titles, however, indicate these two Bills are Finance Bills; and although they are being presented in the form of two separate Bills, they represent a set of connected proposals.

Sir, the economic situation was reviewed in detail in September last in connection with the debate on the Plan. My main conclusion then was that while there were yet no signs of a general inflationary situation, there were vital points in the economy which were under pressure. That broadly is a correct characterisation of the present situation although the strain on the economy may well increase in the coming months because of the gathering tempo of the Plan and of the international situation.

The index of wholesale prices remained more or less steady for about eight weeks since early September but there has been a rise of some ten points in the last two weeks. It is too early to say whether prices are about to resume an upward trend or whether they will keep around the level they have maintained over the last two or three months. The outcome depends partly on the crops and partly on international developments. It is clear, however, that the price situation will have to be watched closely and every effort made to ensure that the pressure of demand on available supplies does not go too far. Money supply in the hands of the public is now Rs. 147 crores more than what it was twelve months ago and the level of bank credit outstanding is higher by Rs. 163 crores as compared to the level about this time last year. During the current slack season, money supply declined much more than in the previous slack season, but the major contractionist factor has been the large import surpluses we have been having of late. The demand for funds has continued unabated and the resources of the banking system are fully strained. Government are anxious to ensure that the legitimate needs of trade and industry do not suffer on account of the present tightness in the money market. It is necessary at the same time, in view of the price trends mentioned above, that credit creation by the banking system is kept within reasonable limits. These are matters of day-to-day monetary management and I need hardly dilate on them at any length at present.

There is, however, an aspect of the economic situation to which special attention is necessary—I mean the foreign exchange situation. Since the end of March 1956, the foreign exchange reserves held by the Reserve Bank have declined from Rs. 746 crores to Rs. 543 crores—a fall of over Rs. 200 crores. Although this decline has taken place as a result of the large imports required for the Plan, and not because of any unplanned imports, it is obvious that this rate of drawal cannot be sustained for any length of time. We are now fairly close to the minimum level of reserves we ought to maintain and I must tell the House, and the public at large, that a most determined effort to conserve and augment our foreign exchange resources is now called for. This consideration must, in my judgment, be given higher priority than the consideration regarding internal prices, although the latter is important. The requirements of foreign exchange for the Second Five Year Plan are proving even larger than were estimated, and it would be necessary not only to economise on

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imports and to increase our exports, but also, in addition, to take active steps to secure the necessary quantum of supplemental resources from abroad.

This brings me to the international situation which has taken a turn for the worse in the last few months. The House is aware of these developments and I need hardly dilate on them. What started as action to keep the Suez Canal open has resulted in closing it completely. On the most optimistic estimates it will take anything between three to six months for the Canal to be opened again. The work of clearing up the Canal has not yet started, and, on the whole, I should think we would be wise in assuming that it will take almost a year before normal traffic on the Canal is resumed. Even before the outbreak of hostilities in that area, a shortage of shipping was developing and this has now been accentuated. The shortage of shipping is, of course, not confined to the areas or routes affected; it has and will become more and more a global shortage. We are taking measures to ensure that the available shipping space is utilised for bringing in our priority imports. A certain lengthening of shipping schedules is, of course unavoidable, and freight rates and insurance charges have already gone up. If, as may be hoped, the closure of the Canal is not too prolonged, we expect to be able to face the temporary difficulties I have mentioned above without any serious dislocation to our Plan. But it would hardly be proper at this stage either to take an optimistic or a pessimistic view of the future in this matter. All I should like to say is that for the next few months we shall have to exercise the fullest vigil not only in regard to our internal situation but also in respect of developments abroad.

I come now to the more immediate problem in hand, namely, taxation. Taxation policy at this stage has to be determined in the light of two main considerations: (a) the requirements of the Plan, and (b) the general economic situation. As regards the former, the position needs only to be briefly stated. The Plan requires mobilisation of financial resources on a scale not attempted hitherto. The Planning Commission has put forward a target of Rs. 850 crores by way of additional taxation over the five-year period. The outlay required for carrying through the development programmes incorporated in the Plan will, it is now estimated, require Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 crores more than the total of Rs. 4,800 crores envisaged in the Plan document. This is partly because some of the financial provisions in the Plan were inadequate; partly, the higher estimate reflects the increased cost on account of higher domestic or external prices. The domestic effort for raising resources will, in consequence, have to be larger.

The general economic situation has also altered somewhat since the Plan was formulated. Prices have registered an almost continuous upward trend—the index is now 430—and the danger of inflationary pressures getting the upper-hand has to be safeguarded by taking steps to mop up a part of the purchasing power now with the public. This is evidenced by the fact that the demand for food, for cloth, for steel and for cement has been rising rapidly. In a sense, the creation of new demands all along the line is of the very essence of developmental planning. An under-developed economy suffers from insufficient demand, insufficient investment opportunities and insufficient production. The vicious circle has to be broken at various points, that is, by a simultaneous expansion of demand and of production. There is danger of inflation when demands grow more rapidly than supplies. One part of the economic policy for the plan period is to increase production, in the short run especially of articles of general consumption like food and

cloth; the other part is an appropriate tax policy aimed at regulating the flow of purchasing power so as to ensure that development proceeds under conditions of economic stability.

In the last session of Parliament, the excise duty on cloth was raised with a view to checking a situation of developing scarcity and consequent windfall profits for the producers or traders. The time has now come for some increase in direct taxation which will on the one hand restrain non-priority spending and on the other afford some corrective to inequalities of income and wealth. This is the two-fold objective behind the proposals now being made.

The Indian tax system has got into a settled groove. It does not bring into the public exchequer even a constant proportion of national income. If a development programme of the dimensions we have in hand is to be carried through successfully the tax system has to be made more elastic. It is hardly possible to do this by stepping up any further the rates of direct taxation, which has now reached a stage when a straightforward increase in the rates would yield poor results. It is necessary now to increase the coverage of taxation by reaching a class of incomes which has hitherto been kept out of the purview of the income taxation—I mean capital gains. Capital gains are an important factor in aggravating economic inequalities, and there is no justification for regarding capital gains as a species of income not liable to taxation. This is a lacuna in the tax system of most countries, a lacuna, one dare say, they will have to rectify in due course. For a developing economy like ours, it is necessary to take early action as the implementation of our programmes is certain to create conditions, if it is not already doing so in which assets of all kinds will appreciate. It is only fair that the exchequer should get a proportion of these incomes when realised in the form of capital gains.

Secondly, the problem of raising resources for investment has to be looked at both from the point of view of the public sector and of the private sector. Just as an increase in public saving is necessary for financing the investment in the public sector, an increase in corporate saving is required for meeting the needs of the private sector. Personal saving is undoubtedly important, but the large-scale investment that is needed for the private sector can hardly be found by individuals. There is a trend in the industrially advanced countries of Western Europe towards greater reliance on corporate savings. The main source of capital for private enterprise in these countries is savings effected by industry itself, supplemented by funds obtained from other institutions in the field of industrial finance. We have increasingly to look to these institutional sources for finding funds for the development of industry. Suggestions have been made on the floor of the House from time to time for dividend limitation, imposition of excess profits tax and the like. These are devices which have been tried in the past but with no great success. In the last budget, a tax on dividends was introduced and a further tightening in the same direction is now called for. This is a better course of action than limitation of dividends by law to a prescribed maximum. It is administratively simpler and it leaves discretion regarding dividend policy to the company or corporation concerned subject to the tax liability it has to meet.

The ploughing back of profits which it is sought to encourage will enable companies to build up larger reserves. It is important that these reserves are used in pursuance of the investment policies laid down in the plan. It would, of course, be wrong to impede in any way the utilisation of these reserves for the legitimate

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purposes of expansion or modernisation for the unit or for the industry concerned. Every facility should, in fact, be given to encourage such use and to direct the balance of reserves for the time being unutilised towards channals in which investment is called for in order to promote the pattern of development envisaged in the plan.

I have mentioned earlier the rapid drawing down of our sterling reserves in the last few years. Although this drawing down is a reflection of the genuine increasing needs of the economy for our development programmes and it would be wrong to take an alarmist view of the situation, it is necessary at the same time to make the utmost effort to conserve and develop our foreign exchange resources. One plank in this programme has to be export promotion, but this is a theme on which I do not propose to dwell in the present context. The other plank is restraint in the matter of imports. The proposals that I am now making are intended to facilitate this latter process. A tighter policy on imports will reduce available supplies and tend to push up prices to the maximum that the consumer will pay. In these circumstances, if there is a large difference between the landed price of the article and the price which the consumer is prepared to pay, the profits will go entirely to the trader. The import duties now proposed will serve to mop up a portion of these unmerited profits. I should stress here that the articles in question are of a luxury character and the raising of import duties does not in any way impinge on the consumption of the mass of the people.

I now come to my detailed proposals. I am circulating to hon. Members two memoranda explaining the provisions of the Bills, but I may briefly refer to them here. Dealing first with direct taxation, my first proposal is to impose a tax on capital gains made on or after the 1st April, 1956. As hon. Members are aware, a tax on capital gains forms part of our existing Income-tax Act, but it was, in operation only for a short period, that is, in respect of capital gains which arose during the period 1st April, 1946 to 31st March, 1948. In the present Bill, I have somewhat altered the existing provisions.

The definition of "capital gains" remains unchanged, but some of the existing exemptions are proposed to be withdrawn. These are capital gains arising on transfers of property on compulsory acquisition, capital gains arising on distribution of assets on dissolution of partnerships or on liquidation of companies, capital gains arising on the sale or residential property possessed by the tax-payer for seven years, etc. Such gains will now be subjected to tax.

Under the existing law, capital gains up to Rs. 15,000 are not subject to tax in the case of individuals. This limit is proposed to be reduced to Rs. 5,000, but an additional concession is proposed to be given to persons in the lower income groups in that no capital gains tax would be chargeable if the total income, including the capital gains, does not exceed Rs. 10,000. I am also considering some concession for small people making gains by the sale of small and medium-sized houses. Under the existing law, capital gains are to be taxed on the basis of slab rates. This, however, bears no relation to the other income of the person making the gains. It is now proposed that the rate of tax to be charged on capital gains should be the income-tax rate applicable to the other taxable income of the assessee increased by one-third of the capital gains he makes in the relevant year. In the case of companies, the rates of tax will be the usual income-tax rate.

Another important change is that the assessee has the option to have his gains worked out either on the basis of original cost or on the basis of its value on the 1st January, 1954.

My second proposal is to increase the rates of super-tax payable by companies which declare dividends in excess of six per cent. of paid-up capital. For the current financial year, such super-tax is two annas and three annas in the rupee in respect of dividends declared between six per cent. and ten per cent., and above ten per cent., respectively. I propose that for the financial year 1957-58, the rates of super-tax should be two annas per rupee for dividends between six per cent. and ten per cent. four annas per rupee on dividends between ten per cent. and eighteen per cent. and six annas per rupee on dividends in excess of eighteen per cent.

My third proposal is not a direct taxation measure, but relates to a proper control over the depreciation and other reserves of companies. Such control becomes imperative when the effect of tax on dividends is to increase the resources of the company. At present, large deductions are made in the computation of profits and of gains of a business by way of development rebates and depreciation allowances. These deductions are related to buildings, plant, machinery and other assets used in the business and are permitted on a consideration of the unduly high cost of acquisition of capital goods, of the possible wear and tear which these assets may suffer by their use in the business and of the need to enable the undertaking to build up adequate funds internally for rehabilitation of its assets from time to time. In the interests of the industrial development of the country, it is necessary that these tax-free reserves are utilised for purposes conducive thereto and not frittered away in other ways. Once we accept the policy of discouraging the distribution of profits, it is essential simultaneously to ensure that the retained profits are put to uses which promote industrial development in accordance with the plan. I propose, therefore, that in the case of companies, depreciation allowances and development rebates due will be added back in the computation of the income, unless a certain amount is deposited with the Government or with the Reserve Bank of India, as Government might determine, before the 30th June of the relevant assessment year. The amount to be deposited will be partly a certain percentage of the excess of the available current profits after payment of taxes and of distribution of dividends over one lakh of rupees and partly a certain percentage of the past accumulated profits and reserves which are not represented by fixed assets in the business. The Bill provides that the percentages will be subject to the ceiling of 75 per cent. as regards the current profits and 25 per cent. as regards the past accumulated profits and reserves. It is, however, my present intention to fix the former at 50 per cent. of the current profits only. The deposits will carry interest and will be refundable wholly or in part on request by the company if the Government is satisfied that the amount refunded will be used by the company in the business for purposes approved by Government in furtherance of the objectives of the plan. It is proposed to constitute a Board of Referees to advise Government on this matter. While it is our intention that a large part of these deposits has to be utilised for the development of industries envisaged in the plan, such residue as is left over from year to year will cumulatively add to the resources of the plan.

My last proposal relates to Section 23A companies. At the present moment, a Section 23A non-investment company, which has failed to make the minimum of 60 per cent. distribution of dividends to its shareholders, is required to pay an additional super-tax on the whole of its undistributed profits at the rate of four annas in the rupee, while an investment company in a similar situation pays eight annas in the rupee. In view of the proposed increase in the rates of super-tax on dividends, it is felt that the rate of four annas for a non-invest-

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ment company will be low and it is, therefore, proposed to raise the rate of additional super-tax for such cases from four annas to six annas. However, it is necessary to give some encouragement to industrial companies to retain their profits for expansion and development. I propose, therefore, to reduce the minimum distribution for a Section 23A industrial company from 60 per cent. to 50 per cent. The procedure for exempting companies from the operation of the provision in industrial concerns which fall within the scope of Section 23A in deserving cases will be continued.

Coming now to Customs Duties, suitable increases in the import duties are proposed on certain selected articles. These fall broadly into three groups.

There are, firstly, a number of articles ordinarily used by the more well-to-do section of the population. Notable among these are wines and spirits where the duties are being raised approximately from 25 to 50 per cent. so as to produce about Rs. 70 lakhs annually. Another Rs. 50 lakhs are expected from the increased duties on motor cycles and sccoters and clocks and watches.

The second group of articles comprises items like coal-tar dyes and certain types of macinery where, on the one hand, the existing duties are low, and on the other indigenous manufacture has made fair progress. The increases proposed are to be effected partly by changes in the Bill and partly by withdrawal of concessions at present given by executive Notification. While these will have a negligible effect on cests of consumer goods, they are expected to produce an annual yield of about Rs. 120 lakhs.

Lastly I propose an increase in the import duty on artificial silk yarn. With the shortage in supplies of cotton cloth, the art silk industry has been doing quite well of late. There has been a substantial increase in production of art silk fabrics, and since these fabrics compete to some extent with fine and superfine cotton farbrics, they are in a position to bear higher taxation than they do at present. However, having regard to the somewhat fluctuating conditions which have prevailed in the art silk industry in the past, I cons der it desirable, that, while the tariff rate should be pitched at a certain maximum devel, Government should fix the effective rates from time to time, according to current needs, by executive Notification. The import tariff rate I have proposed is Rs. 3 per lb., but the immediate effective rates will vary from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2/- per lb. according to deniers. I expect an annual yield of Rs. 160 lakhs from these duties.

I am suggesting a corresponding change in the excise side by proposing the imposition of a Central Excise duty on indigenous art silk yarn. With the protection afforded by a high duty on imported art silk yarn, the restrictions on imports, and increasing demand, the indigenous producers of art silk yarn have been making substantial profits. The excise duty I have proposed is again a ceiling rate of Rs. 1-8-0 per lb. which is being brought down by executive Notfication to 4 annas per lb., and 8 annas per lb. according to deniers. These effective rates generally maintain the measure of protection enjoyed by the indigenous products against the imported product. The annual yield I espect from these rates is Rs. 70 lakhs.

A low excise duty of 2 annas per lb. is being provided, by Notification, for staple fibre and staple fibre yarn.

I have also proposed an excise duty of Rs. 3,000 each on the more expensive types of motor cars made in India. This duty will not fall on trucks or on small cars and is expected to yield about Rs. 80 lakhs in a year. To the extent it discourages the production of big cars, we will have diverted valuable foreign exchange to objects of greater utility.

It is somewhat difficult to make an estimate of the actual yield of Customs duties. On the basis of current imports,

the yield should be about Rs. 9 crores per year. As, however, there is likely to be a substantial reduction in the quantum of imports, the actual extra revenue may well be about Rs. 6 crores in a full year.

Thus, the cumulative financial effect of my Income-tax, Customs and Excise proposals would be about Rs. 16 crores per year, or Rs. 64 crores during the plan period.

I propose also to increase substantially the stamp duties on the Bills of Exchange. As the House is aware, there are certain slab rates prescribed in the Stamp Act which go up to 15 annas per Rs. 1,000 in the case of bills payable not more than a year after they are drawn. By a Notification issued in 1940, these slab rates were substituted by a flat rate of two annas per Rs. 1,000. It is now proposed to increase the statutory rate to Rs. 10 per Rs. 1,000 for such bills with proportionate reduction for bills of shorter duration. These are intended to be ceiling rates and it is my present intention to operate on the basis of half these rates. This increase of duty is, it will be appreciated, a fiscal measure with a monetary intent. The additional revenue resulting from the increase will accrue to State Governments. There is thus no effect on Central revenues.

Proposals regarding Customs and Excise Duties will take effect immediately. Those relating to direct taxation are in respect of current profits and gains but can be assessed only in the next financial year. Changes in Stamp duties will come into force when the law is passed.

This brings me to the end of my proposals for the day. These measures have to be judged not only from the point of view of their immediate yield but also in the light of the requirements by way of financial resources for the period of the plan. The budgets of the Central and State Governments this year show a deficit of over Rs. 400 crores for financing a plan outlay of about Rs. 800 crores. The extent of deficit financing has from now on to be operated within limits if it could not be progressively reduced, if prices are to be prevented from going up further and creating fresh difficulties through increased pressures for higher wages and increased costs all round. The full yield of some of the measures mentioned above will accrue only gradually; but this only means that the earlier the task is begun the better it is from the point of view of the overall stepping up of investment which we propose not only during the Second Plan period but for several plan periods to come.

5 P.M.

In conclusion, I should like once again to emphasize the need to step up as much as we can the rate of savings in the economy in order to match it with the investments we are undertaking. This is no easy task. I should also stress that while an under-developed economy has to depend in some measure on resources from abroad, the amount of such assistance itself depends upon the efforts we make domestically to keep down inflationary pressures and to mobilise the savings of the community for the Plan. We have put all our hopes on the Plan and we must do our best by it. It is suggested in some quarters that we ought to revise our Plan in view of the increase in outlays required to which I have made a reference earlier, and particularly in view of the unfavourable turn in the international situation. I think suggestions of this kind are defeatist in themselves and are quite unjustified. We are only in the first year of the Plan, and although the tasks we have taken upon ourselves are large and difficult, I see no reason to be pessimistic of our capacity to implement the Plan. Nor is there anything in the international situation which, at this stage, suggests a revision of the Plan. I am convinced that they do wrong who express scepticism at a time

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when the country ought to be thinking of nothing else but going ahead with the greatest determination. The Plan is a challenge, and it is a challenge which must be met with all the resources and ingenuity at our command.

FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL*

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to increase or modify the rates of duty on certain goods imported into India and to impose duties of excise on certain goods produced or manufactured in India and to increase the stamp duty on bills of exchange.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to increase or modify the rates of duty on certain goods imported into India and to impose duties of excise on certain goods produced or manufactured in India and to increase the stamp duty on bills of exchange."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce† the Bill.

FINANCE (NO. 3) BILL**

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for the purpose of imposing a tax on capital gains and for certain other purposes and to prescribe the rate of super-tax on companies for the financial year 1957-58.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for the purpose of imposing a tax on capital gains and for certain other purposes and to prescribe the rate of super-tax on companies for the financial year 1957-58."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce†† the Bill.

5.02 P.M.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 3rd December, 1956.

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*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated the 30th November, 1956, pp. 1037—45.

**Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated the 30th November, 1956, pp. 1046—55.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

††Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

COLUMNS

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA 1521-22

Secretary reported the following messages from Rajya Sabha :

(1) That Rajya Sabha had agreed without any amendment to the States Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, passed by Lok Sabha on the 21st November, 1956.

(2) That Rajya Sabha had agreed without any amendment to the Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Continuance Bill, passed by Lok Sabha on the 22nd November, 1956.

(3) That Rajya Sabha had agreed without any amendment to the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, passed by Lok Sabha on the 16th November, 1956.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE . 1522

A copy of the Notification No. S. R. O. 2755, dated the 24th November, 1956, making certain amendments to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, was laid on the Table under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

REPORT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE PRESENTED 1522

Twenty-first Report was presented.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES PRESENTED . 1523-24

(1) Shri Ramachandra Reddi presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Women's and Children's Institutions Licensing Bill.

(2) Shri Ramachandra Reddi presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Children Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

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(3) Shri Kasliwal presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Electricity (Supply) Amendment Bill and also laid on the Table a copy of the evidence tendered before the Select Committee.

BILLS INTRODUCED . 1524, 1651-52

(1) Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill.

(2) Finance (No. 2) Bill.

(3) Finance (No. 3) Bill.

BILL PASSED . . . 1527—88

Further discussion on the motion to consider the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Bill, as reported by Select Committee, was continued. After clause-by-clause consideration the Bill was passed as amended.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED 1589

Sixty-fourth Report was adopted.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION NEGATIVED . 1590—1633

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao moved the Resolution *re* Nationalisation of Collieries in India. After discussion the Resolution was negatived.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION UNDER DISCUSSION . . . . . 1633—36

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh moved the Resolution *re* Scholarships for Children of Political Sufferers. The discussion on the Resolution was not concluded.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER . 1637—51

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari) made a statement *re* economic situation in the country and certain proposals for taxation.

AGENDA FOR MONDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 1956—

Discussion on the Resolution *re* President's proclamation in relation to Kerala.